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Latin America Report

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7 April 1986

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

FIRST AMERICAN CONGRESS OF JURISTS VIEWS FOREIGN DEBT

PA162332 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 86

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The first American Congress of Jurists was held in Lima. The participants basically analyzed the problems created by the region's foreign debt. Lima Mayor Barrantes urged debtor countries to unite and tell the creditor countries that they are unable to pay the foreign debt. He noted that the debt is strongly linked to the existence of an unjust international economic order, which makes the developing countries pay too much for what they import and receive too little for their products. In a very outstanding moment in his speech, the mayor said that not only is the debt acquired by the continent's dictatorships immoral, but that acquired by democratic governments without consulting their people, is also immoral.

The foreign debt situation has existed for several years. The current democratic governments of the continent inherited this situation and are now desperately caught between the pressure exerted by the international banks and the wall of workers' demonstrations against austerity measures, which were adopted in an effort to resolve the crisis.

The case of Argentina is evidence that good intentions are not enough. Since the implementation of the Austral Plan, which froze prices on some items as well as all wages, the labor unions have demanded wage increases to recover their purchasing power. From July 1985 to February 1986, the cost of living in Argentina increased by 27 percent while salaries increased very little. On 24 January, Argentine workers went on a general strike demanding a 20-percent wage increase, a demand that will be made again during the next strike which the General Confederation of Labor has announced for 25 March.

Similar actions are being carried out in Bolivia, Uruguay, and Peru because of the high cost of living, low salaries, inflation, and unemployment--a situation that has been provoked by the foreign debt and increased interest rates, something that goes against democracy and the sovereignty of those nations.

This is the problem that was discussed with special attention during the jurists congress. Several delegates stated that the laws implemented by the international finance banks always allow them an advantageous position over

their debtors, who are threatened with embargoes when they do not fulfill their commitments. These coercive actions against the debtor nations continuously threaten their sovereignty and represent, it was emphatically pointed out, a violation of the principle of international law that no one can transfer to nonexistent rights. Most constitutions state that the people are the trustees of sovereignty and therefore this principle cannot be weakened or threatened; this is currently happening due to the foreign debt crisis.

While the jurists' congress was analyzing the illegality of the foreign debt, the mayor of Lima urged the participants to put law at the service of the people's cause and to struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order.

/8918

CSO: 3348/458

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

CHILE-BOLIVIA RELATIONS--La Paz, 3 Mar (AFP)--Journalist Jorge Siles Salinas, the new Bolivian consul general to Chile, categorically denied here today rumors about negotiations to try to re-establish relations between Chile and Bolivia. I have not been instructed to negotiate the re-establishment of relations with Chile, Siles said. He will take charge of the Consulate General in Santiago at a higher rank than the consular position he now holds. Siles Salinas admitted that the Foreign Ministry is more concerned about the sea outlet problem, because it implies an irrevocable concept for all the inhabitants of this country. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1453 GMT 3 Mar 86 PY] /7358

CSO: 3348/460

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

U.S. PERCEPTIONS OF CARIBBEAN NATIONS CRITICIZED

Media Domination

St Johns OUTLET in English 7 Feb 86 p 8

[Editorial: "All Human Life Is Equally Important"]

[Text]

The world has been plagued with accidents and disasters of late. 1985 was the worst year in aviation history. In 1985 more people died in plane accidents and crashes than ever before. It was the year too, of the terrifying and devastating Earthquake in Mexico, and the equally disastrous volcanic eruption in Colombia, when thousands died in mind-boggling mudslides.

Even before that, there was the awful and horrific sight of thousands dying, in India, poisoned by leaking lethal gas from a U.S. multinational.

Throughout 1985 and continuing there was the endless horror in South Africa, where a racist minority regime inflicts unending state terror on the Black majority. In a certain way, even more horrible than the daily racist horror in South Africa, was the end-of-the year weeping-willow tears shed by White Western powers and media when whites were killed in South Africa. Such deaths were categorised as the work of terrorists. That characterisation, is in itself, one of the worst outrages of the 20th century.

1986 has begun with other tragedies. The death of the U.S. crew aboard the spaceship Challenger was tragic. The human loss is cause for grief. The successful lift-off, quickly and unexpectedly followed by the massive explosion was shocking. America grieved, and the world humanely grieved with America.

Yet one felt that American power over the media had made this loss of seven lives, more grievous and more serious than the hundreds dead and dying in South Africa; more grievous than the hundreds of Palestinians cruelly murdered in the camps at Sabra and Chattila by Israeli sponsored murderers. We were bombarded with details, about the seven dead on the Challenger, the students weeping for the teacher, never ever though have we been given a second of detail about the mere Black babes cruelly murdered in South Africa.

Of course, as everybody is made to know, Western media are very "balanced". However, their ethnocentrism, their belief that they are the Chosen People, God's Elect, and that as such whatever grief they suffer must be world grief,

and whatever is central to them must be of central concern to the world was more than evident on January 28, the day of the Challenger Space tragedy. That very day, 50 or more Indians died in a tragic accident in India, the life of fifty Indians was not worth a second's notice when hours had to be devoted to the 7 American crew members dead.

We take this opportunity to draw our readers attention to the phenomenon of cultural imperialism, through the all pervasive stranglehold of U.S. media in Antigua and the region. Such media are not only seeking to dominate our consciousness, but our very emotions. They are seeking to make us treat as a statistic the number of dead in South Africa, the number of dead Palestinians, the number of Africans dead from starvation, the number of Asians napalmed. At the same time they are elevating in our consciousness and in our emotions the sanctity of the life of the American citizen (*Civis Americanus*). American life alone is sacred. American life and its loss alone must claim our total grief.

We in the Caribbean know that 19 Americans lost their lives in the U.S. illegal and unwarranted invasion of our Caribbean brother - Grenada. Not one single person in Grenada, anywhere in the world, in Grenada or Antigua, Trinidad & Tobago or Britain, Jamaica or the U.S. can say, even as approximate guess, how many Grenadians lost their lives in the illegal U.S. invasion of one of the tiniest countries in the world. Grenadian lives are worthless. American life is sacred. To the 19 dead American invaders a memorial has been built, not in the USA, but in Grenada! The Grenadian dead are unhonoured, some unburied, all unhallowed. This is a cruel distortion of the consciousness and humanity not just of Grenada but of the entire Caribbean.

The world will little note what we say here, and what is written here, but this notion that Third World lives are third rate if not worthless, and that American life is supremely sacred if left to go unchecked, could produce a world horror more horrendous than the most imaginative can conceive.

Ideological Categorization

St Johns NATION'S VOICE in English 21 Feb 86 p 4

[Andre Osborne column "As I See It...": "The U.S. and Us"]

[Excerpts]

Generations of Caribbean people have grown to accept American influence in the region. The big question that has been on most people's minds is why is the Caribbean so important to the United States. While the answer most frequently given is rooted in the threat of communism, one can observe other motivation factors. High on the list has always been the closeness of the two areas, the shared history

and the need to spread influence, even among the small, all contribute to American interest in the Caribbean. More recently it has become necessary for closer ties with the Caribbean because of the influx of Caribbean people into the United States. Not to be forgotten are the several benefits American investors have gained by putting their money into the Caribbean and Latin America.

Access to European and African markets through re-export could mean a lot of money to the United States but these considerations seem dwarfed by the bogey of the Cuban missile crisis.

Living in the shadow of the 1962 crisis has made governments remotely hostile to the United States suspect. This fear has given birth to a domineering movement that

dubs all critics of the American way communist. We in the Caribbean have gained much from our American neighbours but the retreat of democracy wrought by this fear of opposition is no help to us.

Almost every facet of life is now being categorized in ideological terms and as political camps form the spirit of international co-operation is being killed. The Caribbean and the world has grown poorer as a result of this new tendency towards bilateralism.

A POORER CARIBBEAN

Most banana growing countries in the Caribbean now know from bitter experience the result of the U.S. embargo on Nicaraguan fruit. I don't wish to become involved in the

dispute but the action set in motion circumstances that have affected sister islands adversely. The fear of aiding the opposition has meant that no one wishes to speak up and that everyone is seeking favour at the expense of unity. Experience has shown that we in the West Indies have done far more together than we could ever have achieved on our own and that bi-lateral deals are not to our maximum benefit. The severing of ties with UNESCO was a great blow to the Caribbean, many programmes had to be cut and cultural exchanges stopped. True enough the United States has agreed to exchanges on a one on one basis but this is not satisfactory when dealing with other countries. The refusal to ratify the law of the sea con-

vention and opposition to policies that will help the Third World have not shown too much support for the Caribbean. Pressure on the World Bank, UNCTAD and the I.M.F. for more stringent ideological policies has not done any good for the Caribbean. When the glories of free enterprise are extolled by our friends we must expect to see this being practiced.

One cannot help the feeling that we are being used in a checker game especially when we look at how we are being treated as friends under bi-lateral arrangements. Statements by American officials assure us of their support but this is not enough in a world that is being torn apart by confusion. We need greater support for our regional organisations like Caricom.

/9317
CSO: 3298/367

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

ACLM SAID TO HAVE TIES WITH LIBYA; OUTLET VOICES DENIAL

Review of Libyan Activities

St Johns HERALD in English 14 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] In our January 24th, 1984 issue, the HERALD's editorial focused primarily on International Terrorism. This was done in order to apprise nationals of the far-reaching dangers associated with this sinister and appalling act. Now, less than one month since that publication, the HERALD has received reliable information linking ACLM's leader, Tim Hector, to the international Lybian terrorist leader, Muammar Gaddafi. Presently, we are investigating the allegations with a view towards presenting the public with the actual facts of his alleged connection.

It was learned that since early 1980, Libya has been supplying arms and money to radical groups and some governments throughout the region. In addition to supporting the Sandanista government in Nicaragua, Libya also offers military training and weapons to radicals seeking to undermine Western, particularly the United States' influence in the Western Hemisphere. An organization known as The Islamic Call Society with its headquarters in Libya came into being as an aid society for Muslims in trouble. Yet, in a speech given by the Libyan Minister of Culture and Religion, Dr Mohammad Al-Sharif, who led the Libyan delegation to the Caribbean Islamic Conference, it was pro-Gaddafi and extremely anti-U.S. Although the Muslim community in the Netherlands Antilles is overtly politically conservative, the radical polemics expelled at the meeting denote publicly Libya's determination to expand its influence in Central America and the Caribbean. When the ICS held its Third Caribbean Islamic Conference in Willenstad, Curacao, April 18-21, 1985, it was the 3rd in a series of its biannual conferences. The first was held in Trinidad and Tobago in 1981 and the 2nd in Barbados back in 1983.

It should be noted that the ICS, itself a Libyan front organization for subversion abroad, seeks other front organizations to carry out its real objectives. One such organization is the Caribbean Islamic Consultative Com-

mittee which was established by the ICS during the April, 1985 conference. The leaders of opposition parties on some of the island Republics, in the Caribbean such as Jamaica, Dominica, St. Lucia and Grenada, have been offered large sums of money in return for opposing the existing democratic institutions in the region. Another organization, The Central Revolutionary Committee, is responsible for perpetrating and expanding the Libyan Revolution. It is also the focal point for state-sponsored terrorism by Gaddafi's government.

It has at its disposal a budget of several millions of dollars, sophisticated weaponry for terrorist and guerrilla warfare activities and an experienced cadre of international revolutionaries for training terrorists. Its regional Caribbean office is located in Paramaribo and the official directly responsible for the Caribbean is Mukhtar Danas who has made several trips to the region. On August 25th, 1985, the Center for International Revolution used one of its front organizations to spearhead a meeting in Curacao. Although the meeting was described as a conference to examine

the many problems facing Caribbean writers and journalists, it turned out to be a planning session for the Caribbean National Movement (CNM).

The CNM, is a grouping of revolutionary and leftist organizations in the Caribbean and is headquartered in Kingston. As a follow-up to the August 25th meeting, Libya has agreed to provide financial support and direction to the CNM. Plans are now on the way to open a permanent central office in Jamaica and a sub-office in Barbados or St. Lucia. It must be known that the Libyans have selected a three-man leadership council to run the CNM. They are Hervin Chung of the National Liberation Movement of Jamaica, Roosevelt Douglas of the Dominican Labour Party and George Odlum of the Progressive Labour Party of St. Lucia. The Libyans have also set priority objectives in their current support to the CNM. These objectives include financing and guiding the following activities; (1) demonstrations and other political activities directed against the government of Dominica (2) Political parties in Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and the

Dominican Republic (3) a united front of Jamaica People's National Party radicals (4) the lawsuit of Tim Hector of the Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement against the government of Antigua and (5) a Caribbean-wide newspaper. Also, they will continue to fund directly George Odlum and have agreed to provide him with a printing press for the PLP's newspaper, the "Crusader."

Among Caribbean countries and dependencies targeted by Libya as offering the best potential for violent confrontation are Jamaica, St. Lucia, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, the French Caribbean and **ANTI-GUA**. This is quite alarming since many of us in the nation have been under the guise that we were sheltered in our democracy. Now, with limited defences against terrorism, a small population, paucity of resources and quiet political dissension we would like to direct your attention to the paper's insert showing ACLM's leader, Tim Hector, at a meeting with his Libyan terrorist friend and counterpart, Muammar Gaddafi. **ARE WE READY FOR AN ANTIGUAN/LIBYAN CONNECTION?**

ACLM Organ's Response

St Johns OUTLET in English 21 Feb 86 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

The Bird regime, stung by growing internal dissension and by its ever increasing unpopularity is attempting to take the heat off its corrupt and incompetent self.

The February 14th issue of the **Herald** newspaper, the mouthpiece of Deputy Prime Minister, Lester Bird, alleges that some sinister conspiracy, aimed at promoting violent terrorist activities in Antigua, has taken root between the Libyan leader, Muammar Gaddafi and the ACLM.

The paper, in a front page article, captioned '**ACLM/Libya Connection?**' claims that the Libyan government, has at its disposal, several million dollars and sophisticated weaponry for terrorist and guerilla warfare, and has offered military training and weapons to Caribbean radicals seeking to undermine United States' influence in the Western Hemisphere.

The Herald did not and could not substantiate its allegations. It merely carried a picture, on a separate fly leaf, of ACLM chairman Tim Hector in a meeting with Gaddafi and other Caribbean politicians. Presented as some major journalistic scoop, the picture, no doubt seeks to convey the impression that the Outlet editor was engaged in a clandestine, conspiratorial encounter with Gaddafi, previously unknown to the Antiguan public.

Let us set the record straight! Outlet and ACLM have never attempted to hide the fact that Hector did indeed make two visits to Libya and while there conversed with its Head of State.

In July of 1982, Hector visited Libya for an International Congress of Third World countries which involved representatives from over 100 countries of some 280 organisations from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. On his return to Antigua, Hector, in a '**Fan the Flame**' article titled '**Bird calls Direct Democracy Communist**', recorded his impressions of the Libyan Revolution. In that **July 23, 1982 Outlet, the same picture reproduced by the Herald was carried.**

Again, in April 1983, Hector returned to Libya to attend a conference involving some 1,500 scholars and thinkers from around the world. While there, he was hospitalised thus preventing him from appearing in Court to answer a charge brought against him by the Commissioner of Police. Although a telex was sent to the Antiguan authorities advising them of Hector's inability to travel, he was arrested on his arrival in Antigua from Libya. April 21st and kept overnight in a Police cell. His passport was subsequently seized.

Therefore, neither the Bird regime nor the Antiguan public could have been unaware that Hector travelled to Libya and had met Muammar Gaddafi. Outlet and ACLM tells the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. It is the right of all Antiguans to travel to any nation, South Africa excepted. Moreover Libya is an independent nation, a member of the United Nations and other international organisations and at the time of Hector's visits, it was the seat of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and Gaddafi was then the chairman of the OAU.

The motive of the Herald and the Bird regime in bringing up the Libyan bogey at this time is patently obvious. Taking their lead from the American State Department and media, they are seeking to scare the population and divert attention from the savage infighting within the Cabinet, their abuse and misuse of power and the maladministration, foreign domination, social misery and confusion that presently besets this nation.

Let us remind that ACLM and Outlet have never promoted or advocated violence in the state. Since the return to power of the ALP in 1976, there have been no acts of violence directed against the Bird regime, no bombs, no sabotage, no kidnappings, no political murders. The same cannot be said of the years 1971-76 when the ALP was out of power. Then, bombings, industrial sabotage and the scandalous AFF, which advocated violence in its most vile form was the norm rather than the exception.

During ten years of Bird rule, ACLM have endured the arrest of five members who picketed against the activities of Space Research Corporation, a Police raid on the Outlet staff office and illegal seizure of material and the perpetual harassment, prosecution and confinement of its chairman Tim Hector. In a land where it is illegal to picket, demonstrate or stick up anti-apartheid posters on public property, ACLM have always confronted State terror with reason and good sense. In past years the regime in its abortive attempts to discredit ACLM, have exploited the people's fear of communism. This reached a peak after the American invasion of Grenada. We can recall the regime's hysteria in claiming that Cuban made arms (Cuba does not manufacture arms) had been discovered on an Antigua off-shore island. The Attorney General promised an investigation. To date,

two years later, there has been none.

The anti-communist gibberish has failed. No longer can the 'if you have two houses they'll take away one' nonsense blind Antiguans to the fact that the only credible alternative to the Bird corruption, disaster and mismanagement, is the ACLM.

So at this moment, when the regime is more divided than ever, when the Workers Voice 'the organ of its industrial arm, the ATLU', has become a most fervent critic, when their socalled anti-apartheid crusade has been laid bare, they must find a new red herring, it has now become fashionable for the U.S. State Department and media to blame Libya for every terrorist incident in the world and to project Gaddafi as the master mind behind terrorism everywhere. The Bird regime, unfit and unable to govern follows suit.

But this very week, Prime Minister V.C. Bird, along with his fellow-Caribbean house slaves were prepared to sit with Ronald Reagan who ordered the mining of Nicaragua's harbours, who supports the murderous Somocists in their unholy war against women and children and who in recent times have given military and financial support to Jonas Savambi, the South African backed Angolan puppet whose terrorism results in great misery, deprivation and death for the Angolan people. Those who live in glasshouses should not throw stones.

The Bird regime's latest ploy will not fool the public. Ten years of Backwardness, Ignorance, Retrogression and Disaster, cannot be hidden by unfounded glibber about ACLM's so called links to terrorism. The undermining of justice, human rights, public utilities, health and educational services, indeed the undermining of Antigua's image at home and abroad will not be washed away by mere slander.

We can see clearly now!

[The article is accompanied by a photograph showing four indistinguishable figures seated in a circle; the photo bears the heading "Reprinted from OUTLET, July 23, 1982" and a caption reading, "ACLM chairman Tim Hector, is seen facing Colonel Muammar Gaddafi who is seated at left of photo."]

/9317
CSO: 3298/367

7 April 1986

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

UNION ORGAN HITS LESTER BIRD'S 'FLIP-FLOP' LEADERSHIP

St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 1 Feb 86 p 1

[Text]

The Hon. Lester Bird Deputy, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda has made a complete round about, a somersault, a flip-flop and a right about turn.

We are speaking about the controversial tour by the English Cricket team. The Deputy, the most adamant of West Indian leaders, that Gooch, especially, should apologise for their visit to South Africa before they are allowed to visit Antigua.

Gooch subsequently apologised and the Deputy gave the green light for the tour to continue. He said that the English rebels were duly punished by their country under the terms of the Glen Eagles Agreement, he said that no country could dictate for another and he was satisfied that England did their part.

The Deputy has now shocked the Nation by completely reversing his decision and announcing that he would neither support the visit of the English team nor would he attend the Cricket matches. People are left to wonder what kind of leadership is this? Good today, bad tomorrow!

The Deputy must be more consistent. He who would tolerate a south African God mother for his child, should be more consistent in such matters. Leaders are made of sterner stuff...

/9317

CSO: 3298/367

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

INTERNAL STRUGGLE SAID TO DIVIDE RULING ALP

St Johns OUTLET in English 21 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] The war of words in the ALP has not abated. It reveals, at times, hatred, at others an intense animosity of colleague against colleague, that some members of one faction in the Cabinet look set to do other grievous either political or eternal harm.

Though the war of hostile words between the various factions in the ALP has gone on with bitter salvos being fired on both sides, there is no likelihood of a break in the Bird Cabinet. The glue of power, as well as the perks, the money, enjoying the pomp and circumstance of power, will make these so-called "Honourable" men dishonour each other in their public diatribes and still stay together. The result, maladministration of the affairs of Antigua. For like a house divided against itself, must fall, so a Cabinet divided against itself must misgovern.

Telling Sign

Recently in England when two ministers were at war, the Defense Minister and the Minister of Trade, first one and then the other resigned. Both realized that the Thatcher Government could not govern with any semblance of respect if the public feuding between two ministers continued. Not so in Antigua. We have the appearance of parliamentary democracy, but we know nothing and practice less of the conventions and substance of Parliamentary democracy.

The most telling sign of the deep rifts within the Bird Cabinet came recently when Finance Minister John St Luce, formerly thought of as a contender for the succession, revealed to a meeting of bankers in Antigua that he would leave the government now, so fed up he said he was with the bickering and do-nothing Cabinet, if he could get alternative employment.

St Luce has virtually relinquished leadership of his faction, finding some of his colleagues "treacherous" as they are alleged to have privately made deals with the Lester Bird faction while pretending to support him. Of late too, Reuben Harris, Minister of Education and known for his over-weening ambition, has emerged as the leader of the anti-Lester Bird faction in the Cabinet.

Now in last Saturday's Workers Voice there has come fresh public feuding. The anti-Lester Bird faction in the Cabinet obviously authored an unsigned article which appeared on the **front page** of the Workers Voice, organ of the industrial arm of the Ruling party.

RUN-AWAY

The **front page** article, in question, denounced, in the **harshest possible terms** Minister **Hugh Marshall**, Minister without Portfolio in the ministry of Economic affairs, Tourism, Trade, Foreign Affairs and Energy. Among other things the article denounced Marshall as a "just loud mouthed". Worse, Minister Marshall is publicly ridiculed in the Government press as one who "**long before** he became honourable developed a **hatred** for the police because they (the police) attempted to discharge their duties" (The words against him are omitted but are obviously inferred and implied) My My!

The **anti-Lester** Bird faction did not stop there. So as to leave the reader in no doubt that they are slinging the dirtiest mud they can find in Marshall's past to bespatter his face in the present the article continued thus.

"Our friend from Grays Farm (Tanny Rose?) completely lacking finesse, has said openly that if the young anti-apartheid protestors had been wearing **skirts** and **high-heeled shoes** they would undoubtedly have escaped the wrath of the police".

Every Antiguan and Barbudan knows what this is a reference to, and the valid reference is only to avoid libel, but nonetheless abusive in the extreme. It is to such low levels that the Bird Cabinet has sunk in its bitter public feuding.

ESAU

The **article in question** is a response to Marshall's deplored the arrest of young Antiguans, belonging to the

Committee of Concerned Youth against Apartheid who were arrested for sticking up anti-apartheid posters. Marshall, publicly deplored the arrests, as being lawful, but definitely **not** in keeping with the government's anti-apartheid stance. Marshall insisted and was careful to quote the Bible that 'the law (sabbath) was made for man, and not man for the law (sabbath)'

However, the anti-Lester Bird faction anxious to tilt against Lester Bird with all their might charged that Marshall spoke out against the anti-apartheid protesters, but, said the anti-Lester Bird faction, Marshall's statement deplored the arrest, "was **indeed** the voice of Jacob, but the hand was the hand of Esau". This may or may not be so but according to anti-Lester Bird faction in Cabinet Lester Bird is the real author. and therefore culprit.

We use the word "culprit" advisedly, because the article itself views Lester Bird as an accomplice who condoned Marshall's statement explicitly or implicitly. Said the article "The Honourable Marshall's statement has serious implications for law and order in this country, for the morale of the Police Force. To date there has been no indication that the Honourable Marshall has been reprimanded for his public statement and since he is only a junior Minister, it is reasonable to assume he had the **endorsement** of his Minister(Lester) on this issue".

RESIGNATION

Not content with that the article called for Marshall's resignation and by extension Lester Bird's. It said "When a Minister makes a public appeal to raise funds to assist law-breakers with their legal fees, it is clear that that Minister has joined with the law breakers **to fight the government**. In most other democratic countries that Minister would have the **decency** to offer the Prime Minister his resignation since he would no longer consider himself bound by the principle of Collective Responsibility".

What is serious in all this is the notion that the Police are always right, and to deplore any act by the Police is "to fight the government" and "to flout Collective Responsibility". Though we intend to take no sides in this raging battle, involving the most intense hatred, of Cabinet member for Cabinet member, it is common for Cabinet Ministers in England or the USA, to deplore specific actions as excessive.

APARTHEID SUPPORTER

What is apparent however, and shameful, is that the writer or writers of the article, clearly a Cabinet Minister or Ministers, actually support apartheid in the article in question. The article stated "Are we to understand that in the view of the Honourable Marshall, people who wound, murder, demonstrate without permission, wilfully flout authority, and flagrantly break the law, commit arson or destroy property under the licence of anti-apartheid activity should not face the penalties of the law".

This clearly means that the writers are against all those in South Africa who are protesting apartheid in a life-and-death struggle. They should ask Botha for permission to demonstrate,

should be shot and killed in retaliation, and the article agrees with Botha "to use the full force of the law" against anti-apartheid protesters. Certainly, the article could not be referring to events in Antigua because no one here has been wounded, murdered or committed arson in any public demonstration.

The **crass conservatism** expressed here is the voice of an anonymous Jacob, but it bears the stamp of the ultra-Right arch-reactionary Reuben Harris, "the fight steel with steel man" when the Bird government ruthlessly put down the teachers in 1979 refusing even to honour the ruling of the Court that the Teachers were unlawfully dismissed and should be reinstated.

Oddly enough, Outlet Editor has been charged with "undermining confidence in a public official on the conduct of public affairs" yet the very public officials by Radio and in print are publicly **undermining** confidence in each other. If the law were fair, they would all be charged.

The **invective, abuse, harshness and hostility** in this article on the Front Page of the **Workers Voice** highlights the brutal battle for succession and the division of the Bird Government into mutually hostile camps. This mis-government continues.

/9317
CSO: 3298/367

ARGENTINA

FURTHER REPORT ON RADICALS' ANTI-CGT CAMPAIGN

PY232154 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Mar 86 p 13

[Text] (NA-DYN)--The UCR national committee yesterday blasted the CGT Tuesday strike call as "the extreme expression of anti-democracy and the apology of confrontation as a method."

A campaign to counter labor unrest and discredit the strike took off in San Carlos de Bariloche last night when the Radical National Committee executive board released a sharp statement tongue-whipping the "authoritarianism" of the CGT and its hard-line attention-grabbing tactics pitting government against workers.

The statement, entitled "Radicalism Will Defend the Popular Will," calls the strike politically motivated so the CGT can "create a space of its own and continue accumulating power."

Committee Second Vice-president and Lower House Majority Leader Cesar Jaroslavskiy said the strike is "opportunist" rather than "based on principles."

But Senator Edison Otero, alternate UCR party chairman, explained his party has decided against direct confrontation with the CGT and will instead adopt "an active stance to face CGT aggression."

Jaroslavskiy said the party's "mobilization" plan is centered on the slogan "to strike or continue moving forward" and added, "we want to step ahead." The campaign includes rallies in Rio Negro and Catamarca as well as "every possible means to clear up public opinion," mainly through ads and posters already covering city walls.

During the Bariloche talks the committee also voiced strong support of the Contadora peace initiative and claimed diplomacy and political dialogue, coupled with respect for the self-determination of nations, are the only ways to secure a peaceful and lasting solution to the Central American crisis.

Another statement criticizing the CGT was released by the UCR Buenos Aires Provincial Committee after their convention delegates gathered yesterday in Avellaneda to outline this year's political strategy, elect new authorities and ratify the widely-backed nomination of Public Information Undersecretary Nestor Rodriguez Cross as convention chairman.

"Argentina cannot bear to live in permanent confrontation with corporativist schemes" the provincial committee contended, opposing "socially anachronistic" strike measures which repeatedly grind the country to a halt. On a separate matter the provincial authorities endorsed the government's privatization plan and moves to "revamp the state apparatus."

Yet further annoyance over CGT actions came this weekend from Buenos Aires City Radicals, as they blasted "some union leaders who readily adopt measures the government does not deserve." In a message signed by city head Jorge Gomez and secretary-general Enrique Nosiglia, the group charged "those same leaders showed greater calm and patience during the military dictatorship from which we inherited the worst economic crisis in national history."

Conceding there is no easy way out of the economic situation, the city radicals warned wage hikes over and above the economy's possibilities will only "newly spark the torture of inflation which the Argentine people helped crush in June 1985. "Nor can irresponsible attitudes be taken in connection with foreign debt commitments." the group added, for such measures would place an even heavier burden on the shoulders of the poorest workers.

They stressed the CGT scorned government pledges to guarantee the buying power of salaries in 1986 as well as offers to discuss income policy, taking into account not just wages but also price regulations.

Similar views are emerging from a seminar ending today on politics and socio-economic affairs held by city radical government authorities, congressmen and party leaders. Lower House Speaker Juan Carlos Pugliese opened the meeting on Friday affirming that, faced with the CGT's strike, the UCR will "take to the streets to fight for the transformation and modernization of archaic structures."

"We are forging a deep change in Argentine society which is right under our noses, however it seems we cannot see what is close up and instead look back unleashing renewed confrontations without knowing what they are over," Pugliese said.

Finally the Radical Youth also took stands at odds with the CGT contending that "once the excuse of a unilateral moratorium was grounded in Congress, the only recourse left" the labor group was to put the wage issue on the front burner to justify confrontation.

In a statement the youth said the current national situation "obliges labor leadership to refrain from confronting the government to divide society." However the government must step up serious solutions to the social problem, they added.

BAHAMAS

FNM OFFICIAL CITES RUMORS OF 'SNAP ELECTION'

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 5 Mar 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

FNM Deputy Leader Cecil Wallace-Whitfield told thousands of supporters at a rally last night that he recently heard rumours in Freeport that Prime Minister Pindling is thinking of calling a snap general election within 90 days.

Addressing the rally at R M Bailey School playing field, Mr Whitfield, who is MP for Pine Ridge, Grand Bahama, said the opportunity to stop the Prime Minister must come between now and August, 1987, when general elections must be held.

"It can only happen if we as Bahamians now do the things that are necessary in order to give us the chance of removing him," he said. He urged supporters to get registered to vote because a "voteless people is a hopeless people."

"You see, we keep hearing rumours of all different kinds," he said. "It must come but when I was in Freeport I heard that somebody said that Pindling is thinking about calling a snap election in 90 days."

"Now that may or may not be true, it may or may not be true, but if he did call an election in 90 days and those of us who didn't bother to get registered, we would be cussing ourselves, left, right and centre, black, blue, orange and purple because we didn't go and get registered when we could," he said.

He said he is among those who has not registered and he knew he was speaking to a lot of people who were in the same position as him.

"But within the next 14 days,

I will correct that situation and I hope that during the next 14 days, the other thousands of Bahamians like me who have not yet registered will see to it that they are registered to vote in this election," he said.

He said there are thousands of FNMs who have registered, but there are thousands more who have not.

"And if an election was called in a short period of time and Pindling came off with 22 or 23 seats, maybe by 10 votes, 11 votes, 12 votes, we would be counting ourselves because we haven't done those things that we ought to do," Mr Whitfield said.

He said that he believes that the FNM could have won the election in 1982 "if only we who are FNMs would make sure that we do those things that are necessary to prevent Pindling from taking an election away from us."

"When I came back on June 9 (1982) and went to the Southern Recreation Grounds that evening, there were thousands of people all over the park and everyone who was there was convinced that tomorrow there would be an FNM victory," he said.

"But something went wrong and something went wrong the next day because FNMs became so convinced that we were going to win that FNMs didn't do those things that they needed to do on election day in order to ensure an FNM victory," he said.

"Now simply because Pindling only had 525 people up at the Yamacraw meeting the

other night and the FNM have over 3,000 at this meeting tonight, is no reason for us to go sleep," Mr Whitfield said.

"It is good reason for us to be quite heartened and to feel good about the work which we are about, but we must not slacken our pace and we must not lose heart," he said. "We must speak to every PLP that is on the fence and wanting to change, that is wanting to come over. Each one of them that we can bring over to our cause it means the more certain we can be of victory on election day.

"Do not turn away those who would wish to come and join us in the FNM. Encourage everyone to join in this FNM because this is not just a struggle for our handful of people," he said.

"This is a struggle for the survival of this country, for us to be able to look forward to the day when we can breathe the breath of freedom and tell our children we have removed a monster, we have destroyed the evil in our midst, we have kept the faith with you and we now have an FNM government which will ensure that there is economic opportunity for our people, there will be fairplay, there will be justice and there will be no victimization," he said.

"Those are the objectives and the aims for which we seek and for which we must work constantly," Mr Whitfield said. "It will not come to us simply because we want it, it is only going to come to us because we work for it."

BAHAMAS

FOUR GROUPS FORM NEW HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 6 Mar 86 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text] A new human rights organization, under the chairmanship of Anglican priest Dunstan Burrows, has been formed and will hold a "great march" from Windsor Park to Rawson Square next Tuesday night.

Father Burrows urged all groups and individuals in the society--churches, unions, political parties, civic organizations, social and sporting clubs, professional associations, junkanoo groups and others--"to join us in the great march for justice and freedom."

Bahamian Coalition Human Rights is made up of a diverse group of people who are concerned about the preservation of the fundamental rights and freedoms of all who live in the country.

"Recent events have brought further disgrace on the name of our country--and every Bahamian with any sense of decency and morality will feel ashamed. Only those with no shame or no heart will be proud of what happened. We refer, of course, to the inhumane round-up at gunpoint of illegal immigrants and Bahamian-born citizens, the forced separation of families which recalls the days of slavery, and more recently the beating and death of a man while in police custody," Father Burrows read from a prepared Press statement.

The executive of the new organization introduced themselves at 1 pm today in the shade of the massive fig tree in the shadow of the Supreme Court, reminding Bahamians that "this is the institution which has the duty to ensure that the human rights of all in the Bahamas are respected beyond the shadow of any doubt whatsoever."

Bahamian Coalition for Human Rights is so far represented by four groups: National Association for the Protection of Human Rights, Freedom and Justice Now Committee, Concerned Citizens Action Committee and Vanguard Nationalist and Socialist Party.

Under the leadership of former Cabinet Minister Randol Fawkes, the National Association for the Protection of Human Rights in 1980 went to New York to

complain to United Nations authorities that the Bahamas has consistently refused to sign the international covenants on human rights. The group was fighting against the proposed constitutional amendments at the time.

Freedom and Justice Action Now Committee was formed to protest the firing of then Bahamas Union of Teachers principal Leonard Archer as a high school principal, and Concerned Citizens Movement banded together in mid-1985 on the South African apartheid issue.

Members of the new organization are Father Burrows, chairman, Elma Chase, treasurer, of Elma E. Campbell Chase law firm, Earla Carey Baines, secretary of the new organization and assistant secretary general of the Trade Union Congress, Carl Bethel, a lawyer and vice-president of the FNM's Torchbearers Association, Haldane Chase, a lecturer at the College of the Bahamas, Wallis Carey, Women's director of the Vanguard Party, brothers Dion and Mark Hanna, a lawyer-member of the Rastafarian movement and farmer, respectively, and Wilford Lockhart, accountant.

Father Burrows said that recent events concerning the Haitians have served as a catalyst for Bahamian Coalition for Human Rights.

"Our only regret is that such an organization was not formed a long time ago. For too long now individuals and groups in our society have had their human rights trampled on and their cases, to a lesser or greater extent, have been taken up by individual groups of persons with minimal success," he said.

"Noting that there is strength in numbers, we have been moved by the power of God, we feel, to pool our financial, spiritual, moral, intellectual and physical resources as we engage in this struggle to preserve decency, morality and humanity in the affairs of men of our land.

"For too long, we as a people have remained silent while young men have died in police custody, their deaths remaining uninvestigated and unpunished; and for too long we have remained silent while bread was taken out of the mouths of Bahamian citizens as their parents were denied jobs because of their political persuasions; for too long we have done nothing to tackle seriously the problem of unemployment which is the basis of most of our social problems and which brings about the degradation of too many of our youth," Father Burrows said.

"We have no desire to be oppressed and abused as in Haiti and the Philippines. Using people power, we will stand up and be counted."

Bahamians Coalition for Human Rights called on all to bring pressure to bear on Government in order that the dignity and rights of all will be respected.

Father Burrows quoted from article 15 of the Constitution, which states, "The fundamental rights and freedoms are: (a) Life, liberty and security of the person, (b) enjoyment of property and protection of the law, (c) respect for privacy and the security of family life, (d) freedom of conscience, of expression, of movement and of peaceful assembly and association."

In order to focus attention on the question of human rights, Bahamian for Human Rights have planned a march for Tuesday starting at Windsor Park at 7 pm. The march will be held along East Street to Rawson Square where a rally will be held in front of the statue of National Hero Sir Milo Butler, "a champion in the cause of human rights."

Father Burrows thanked all those organizations and individuals who have supported the cause of human rights before now and who have pledged to continue to do so.

"Thanks also to those who have kindly provided assistance to our Haitian brothers, sisters and children in the present crisis," Father Burrows said.

/9274
CSO: 3298/372

BARBADOS

TRADE WITH TRINIDAD DOWN IN 1985, NOW PICKING UP

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 27 Feb 86 p 16

[Text]

BRIDGETOWN, Feb. 26, Cana — SALES of Barbados-made products to Trinidad and Tobago declined by 48.5 per cent last year, but were starting to pick back up by year-end, Commerce and Industry Minister Louis Tull said today.

"The flow of trade to Trinidad and Tobago in the last quarter of last year picked up reasonably well after we took certain decisions," he said.

Fielding questions from members of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Tull said these decisions included reopening the Barbados market to canned Trinidadian soft drinks, restricted from entering a few years ago after their disposable tin containers were deemed by local authorities as an environmental hazard.

Mr. Tull was unable to say how much in dollar terms Barbados sold to Trinidad and Tobago in 1985, but forecast continued improvement in trade between the two countries this year.

Trinidad and Tobago is the largest export mar-

ket for Barbadian products in the Caribbean Community Common Market (Caricom). Import restrictions in force there over the last few years seriously hampered the manufacturing sector here, causing production cutbacks and substantial staff lay-offs.

Local Goods

Meanwhile, alluding earlier to the problems that had beset local manufacturing as a result of the decline in intra-Caricom trade, Mr. Tull said the distributive sector can help manufacturers in such situations by purchasing local goods wherever possible in preference to imported ones.

"We must strike a fair balance between the interests of the local distributor," he said in a speech to a Chamber luncheon.

"The distributor dictates what consumers will purchase, because consumers can only purchase what is made available to them in the stores," he said.

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CSO: 3298/373

BARBADOS

OPINION POLL SHOWS TWO PARTIES RUNNING 'NECK AND NECK'

Bridgetown WEEKEND NATION in English 14-15 Feb 86 p 1

[Article by Harold Hoyte]

[Text]

THE TWO POLITICAL PARTIES in Barbados are running neck and neck at the start of this election year.

This has been confirmed in the first opinion poll conducted by **SYSTEMS** on behalf of **THE NATION**.

Although the two parties have got about equal support from committed voters interviewed in the poll, their percentage of the 978 persons island-wide who responded, is too small to be of great significance.

The size of the uncommitted vote is too large for one to make a reasonable prediction about what would be the outcome if a general election were held tomorrow.

Support for the two parties in the poll conducted over two weekends and concluded last week is as follows:

Barbados Labour Party (BLP) 17.0 percent.
Democratic Labour Party (DLP) 16.6 percent.

Since each of these parties traditionally holds about 40 percent of the support of voters, the small percentage who have expressed their preferences is not enough on which to come to a firm conclusion.

In fact, those who would not say whom they will vote for, represent almost as many as those who have committed themselves to the two parties together — 31.3 percent.

Likes and dislikes for the two parties further underscore the even nature of the contest so far.

Asked if they could say if they liked or disliked the BLP or DLP, respondents' answers showed no major gap between the two.

Those who liked the BLP **VERY MUCH** represent 8.2 percent while 8.6 percent like the DLP **VERY MUCH**. Of those who **LIKE** (as opposed to **LIKE VERY MUCH**) the party, the BLP claimed 21.9 percent while the DLP got 21.3 percent.

Even in dislike

Dislike for the two parties also panned out pretty evenly with 5.9 percent disliking the BLP and 4.1 percent disliking the

DLP.

Both parties will want to take consolation from this first opinion poll.

The DLP will feel good about the rating of their leader. Respondents were asked to rate the political leadership of Prime Minister Bernard St. John and the leader of the Opposition Errol Barrow, respectively on a scale of one to ten. Mr. Barrow of the DLP did better than Mr. St. John of the BLP. Mr. Barrow got the higher percentage — 33.3 percent of those who scored them between seven and ten points, (Mr. St. John got 17.8 percent).

Similarly it was Mr. St. John who got the higher percentage of those who rated them between one to four marks while 8.2 percent rated Mr. Barrow in that low category.

The BLP will want to draw its strength from the fact that 71.7 percent of respondents thought that the performance of Government island-wide was fair to excellent. Only 14.7 percent of respondents assessed their work as poor or very poor. Some 13.6 percent of electors said that they did not know how to rate the performance of Government.

SYSTEMS has been conducting public opinion polls for the **NATION** for several years and for the last general election they did a total of six, providing accurate data on the popularity of the parties and identifying the issues of concern to Barbadians. They will be conducting additional polls as election date draws nearer.

Interviews for this survey were conducted by a team of field workers who canvassed the entire island, covering 40 enumeration districts in all 27 constituencies. Care was taken to identify and ensure that the sample reflected as close as possible to a fair distribution of age, sex and socio-economic groups.

BELIZE

PUP ACCUSED OF PLOT TO FORGE COMMUNIST LINKS

Belize City THE VOICE in English 16 Feb 86 p 2

[Unsigned article: "A Warning to All Belizeans"]

[Text]

This is an impassionate but serious warning to all Belizeans living at home and abroad and we hope that the other democratic newspapers do the same. This is not a scaring ploy but a serious warning to all patriotic Belizeans. Any mistake or miscalculation can lead us to destruction.

Let us first begin by saying that the Belizean - people finally regained their power of the vote, when they went to the polls in 1984. It was a bold decision which shocked the world, for it was erroneously believed, or so some people were led to believe, that the PUP could not lose an election. George Price, who had been in power for thirty odd years, had taken Belize and Belizeans for granted and held the country hostage to his whims. Surrounded by dro-

nes and leftist co-horts, he had the country in terror-like fashions.

Likewise it is public-- knowledge that the P.U.P made a mockery of democracy and was moving like a thunder-bolt towards communism. Five more years of this rule and Belize would have become a full Russian-Cuban satellite. The documents and pacts had already been signed and Belize was on the verge of a Communist take over. This would have been a bloody war, in which brother would be fighting against brother, - for this is the communist policy.

Presently we are gliding on a peaceful street, but don't close your eyes and ears for there are amongst us, very desperate men, who would like to regain that power at any cost. There are hidden and sinister plans by

these demons to destabilize the country, to create hatred amongst races, organization and to incite violence.

We therefore warn you, that the worst thing that could ever happen to Belize is for the PUP to ever regain power. These men are desperate and would return with vengeance. Just by reading their Belize Times and other clandestine communist propaganda sheet, one can see that these people will be merciless, if they would ever get back in power.

From leaks within their ranks it is known that they have plans on the draw-board to introduce a repressive system, which would take away all our civil liberties. [As a reminder to the forgetful-Do you remember the law that almost passed, whereby the BDF was to be empowered to search, arrest and brutalize? Do you remember the law which would introduce trial without jury under such persons, the likes of Judge Moe? Have you forgotten the merciless murders in Corozal and Orange Walk? Have you forgotten,

the thousands of refugees that the PUP brought in a move to outvote Belizeans? Have you forgotten the Heads of Agreement which George Price and Company signed? Did you know of a secret military pact with Cuba, similar to the one signed by Maurice Bishop? Have you forgotten Alvin August's death? Have you forgotten the Misa Campesina by Nicaraguans trying to mock our religious denominations? Have you forgotten the visits to Russia, East Germany, Cuba etc by these TRAITORS? Have you forgotten these and many more?

Well Belizeans, this is just a reminder and an exhortation that the worst thing that could ever happen is for Belize to fall under a barbaric Communist regime.

The PUP in its new drive will deceitfully preach about God, about democracy, about justice, about national unity, about liberation BUT their underground movement is to fool the people to fall in the political trap of their so called Peaceful Belizean Revolution. God save us all.

/9317
CSO: 3298/366

BELIZE

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO CENTRAL AMERICA--Belize City, Fri, Feb 21--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that Santiago Perdomo will be appointed Belize's non-resident Ambassador to Central America and Panama. Mr Perdomo, a former PUP Minister who resigned from that party in 1978, was the UDP Director of Organization during the 1984 general election campaign which swept the UDP to power. The appointment, which will result in greater diplomatic links for Belize with Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, Costa Rica and Panama, amount to vindication of a sorts for Mr Perdomo. He was scheduled to be Belize's new Ambassador to the United Nations shortly after the December 1984 change of government, but the UDP quickly cancelled the offer amidst reports that San was a "security risk." [Text] [Belize City AMANDALA in English 21 Feb 86 p 1] /9317

CSO: 3298/366

BOLIVIA

ADN DEPUTY LEADER DISAGREES WITH PARTY POLICIES

PY141832 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] Deputy Eudoro Galindo Anze has decided to retreat to the rank and file. Galindo Anze has addressed an open letter to ADN leader General Hugo Banzer Suarez, who is currently in the United States. The ADN leadership has declined to make any comments yet on the contents of the letter, but any hint of a party split has been ruled out.

Eudoro Galindo makes a few comments on the letter announcing that he is retreating to the rank and file.

[Begin Galindo recording] The letter I have released today explains some of the background of [words indistinct]. First of all, the one referring to the party's internal life.

The ADN is the largest party in Bolivia, and among the people belonging to the party there are men and women from all over the country and from various social and economic classes who have put their faith in an ideology, in a platform, and in the people representing the party leadership.

Recently, the party has been neglecting organizational and recruiting activities, as well as leadership training. I disagree with this attitude, and I feel that there is a certain dissatisfaction among the party members.

The second question refers to mistakes which I consider have been committed in the actions of the party leadership. Also, concerning the administration [words indistinct] the intention expressed in the democratic pact. [end recording]

There is clearly disagreement over the democratic pact the ADN has signed with the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement]. Here are Eudoro Galindo's comments.

[Begin Galindo recording] I repeat, mistakes have been made. In the first place, the failure to take a stand regarding the education problems, the floods, the reactivation of the country's productive apparatus, and the repeated postponements of congressional activities. On the other hand, the mistaken attitudes, such as the lack of discretion during the trial of General Luis Garcia Meza.

The third reason concerns the ADN's political future. We are managing ourselves, I repeat, in a way that is not in agreement with the sentiments of the ADN members. We have a dangerous relationship with the MNR government, where we could be held accountable for all the liabilities involved in the actions of a government marked by the deep internal contradictions and problems of the MNR, and it will be very difficult for us to share any merits this government may eventually produce. [end recording]

These were comments by ADN Deputy leader Eudoro Galindo, who has decided to retreat to the party rank and file.

/7358
CSO: 3348/460

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT WARNS LABOR UNIONS--La Paz, 1 Mar (EFE)--Bolivian Information Minister Herman Antelo today remarked that the government will pursue legal actions against labor unions and organizations that stage strikes and stoppages, in view of the wave of such actions sweeping the country. The protests of labor unions and other organizations are prompted by the government's staunch decision to maintain the salary freeze despite the fact that their purchasing power has been declining, and to reduce the budget allocations for the nine departments of the country. The minister said that the strikes and stoppages are "an attack on the economy of the state and a violation of institutional order," and warned that these actions will be severely punished. He added: "The government is open to dialogue with all sectors within the framework of the Constitution but it will not accept any kind of pressure." [Excerpt] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0426 GMT 2 Mar 86 PY] /7358

LAKE TITICACA PROPOSAL REJECTED--La Paz, 12 Mar (AFP)--Bolivian Defense Minister Luis Fernando Valle said here today that neither the Bolivian Government nor the country will accept a proposal to open an outlet from Lake Titicaca into the Desaguadero river. The proposal to use explosives to open an outlet from Lake Titicaca, this highest lake in the world located on the Bolivian Peruvian border, was made by Peruvian authorities who had previously asked to discuss the issue with their Bolivian colleagues. The explosives would be placed in three concrete structures, part of an old bridge over the Desaguadero river, which block the drainage of the waters of Lake Titicaca. The problem is that the explosions might cause uncontrollable overflow of Lake Titicaca and destroy several towns in Oruro Department in Southwestern Bolivia). Defense Minister Valle said that this proposal, was made in view of the floods caused by the high level of water in the lake which have left about 140,000 people without homes, crops or animals. The proposal will only be adopted on conclusion of satisfactory scientific studies, and if there is no threat to any town. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1444 GMT 12 Mar 86 PY] /7358

PLO DONATES \$5,000--The Palestine Liberation Organization has donated \$5,000 to assist the flood victims. This was announced in a press communique forwarded to Radio Panamericana by the official PLO Mission in La Paz. The communique states the following: In view of the difficult situation being experienced by Bolivia, a situation that is worsening as a result of the catastrophic consequences of the floods in La Paz Department, the PLO, on behalf of the Palestinian people and through the official PLO Mission in this

brotherly country, expresses its deep concern over the catastrophic damage caused at the human and economic level and sympathizes with the brotherly Bolivian people and friendly government in these circumstances of national distress, especially with the poorer sectors who are directly suffering the consequences of the floods. The communique released by the PLO Mission in La Paz adds that at this difficult time our human values demand from us that we morally and financially sympathize with the brotherly Bolivian people, joining the solidarity campaign held to assist the victims. Therefore, upon being informed about the situation currently prevailing in Bolivia, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat immediately instructed that the mission to cooperate by donating \$5,000, which will be delivered to the Foreign Ministry. [Text] [La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Mar 86 PY] /7358

POLICE TEARGAS STUDENT DEMONSTRATION--The community has again been taken aback by the police behavior. A demonstration staged by students from private and Catholic schools in solidarity with the situation in the state schools has been repressed with tear gas, just as it would have been under a harsh, dictatorship. The students from private schools, mostly girls, did not even manage as much noise as was made in past demonstrations by students from state schools. Nevertheless, they were repressed by the police, who used tear gas even though demonstrations have not been banned since the state of siege was [word indistinct] a long time ago. All this is contradictory because in the noisy protest march last Wednesday, when several petards went off shaking the windows of downtown buildings, the police did not fire a single tear gas cannister. This morning, however, they staged a truly astonishing deployment. The press closely monitored the demonstration held by the private school students and the demonstration did not in the least disrupt the public order. Therefore, the police repression is not justified, while the protest of the teachers, school directors, and parents of students of the so-called 'collecting' schools is fully justified. [Text] [La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Mar 86 PY] /7358

\$57 MILLION IMF STANDBY CREDIT--La Paz, 17 Mar (AFP)--Bolivian Planning Minister Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada and Finance Minister Juan Careaga today reported that the Bolivian Government and the IMF signed a letter of intent by which the IMF will grant Bolivia a \$57-million standby credit. The credit, which is meant to stabilize the Bolivian economy and allow the inflow of new credits worth \$300 from other organizations, is subject to approval by the IMF management in the next few weeks. The IMF demanded that the following conditions be complied with prior to the signing of a letter of intent: that the fiscal deficit should not be greater than 5.8 percent of the GDP, that tax collections increase to 12 percent of the GDP, that inflation not exceed 36 percent in 1986, that customs duties collections reach 2 percent of the GDP, that income tax collections reach 1.5 percent of the GDP, and that the country reach a 3-percent annual growth rate. IMF spokesmen told AFP that the organization's decision to help Bolivia is a compensation for the collapse in the price of tin, the main mineral export of Bolivia. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1415 GMT 17 Mar 86 PY] /7358

POTOSI SUPPORTS ADN DISSIDENT--The Nationalist Democratic Action leadership in Potosi Department has commented on the resignation of Eudoro Galindo, national deputy chief of the ADN, in a statement delivered to the media. In support of Galindo, it says: The party members, aware that arrogant foreign philosophies imported from abroad are destroying Bolivian nationalism--and obeying their principles of order, peace, and work--fully support the position taken by national deputy chief Eudoro Galindo Anze who, as an active grassroots leader, now wishes to guide the party of the large majority along the path of national and democratic dignity with a sound party and doctrinaire criterion. The document is signed by departmental chief (Raul Tarrico); Dr (Ramiro Loiz), party discipline supervisor; (Rolando Gonzalez); (Ramiro Ruiz); and (Teresa Conde). [Relay from Potosi by an unidentified Radio Panamericana correspondent] [Text] [La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Mar 86 PY] /7358

CSO: 3348/460

BRAZIL

DISSOLUTION OF DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE BY NOVEMBER PROJECTED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] From the way things are going, with the PMDB dissociating itself from the government more and more without actually breaking away, there is no way for the Democratic Alliance to function, or even survive. Beginning with the upcoming November elections. By then, unless there is an unusual change, the PMDB and the PFL will present themselves as united in only one state or another. In most states they will be the major adversaries, pitting their gubernatorial candidates and their candidates for two senatorial seats against each other, not to mention those who are running for federal and state representative seats.

Only in the November elections? Don't kid yourself. The picture will become even worse when the presidential elections come up, possibly in 1988. All indications are that the PMDB will have one candidate and the PFL another. Because of issues of political interest, and also of doctrine, dogmatism, and ideology, the Democratic Alliance will become a political fiction, which it already is; it will be completely and integrally unviable.

At the state level, the existing divergencies between liberal and PMDB candidates have been there for some time, but became fundamental starting with the PMDB reaction to ministerial reform. Not to mention Sao Paulo, where for a long time Olavo Setubal of the PFL, Orestes Quereia of the PMDB, Paulo Maluf of the PDS, and who ever Luis Ignacio Lula da Silva decides to choose for the PT have all been in place. In Minas, every day the liberals find new reasons to attack and be attacked by the governor, Helio Garcia, who is ready to launch Tancredo Augusto, the son of Tancredo Neves, as his successor. In Rio de Janeiro, not even the reinforced PDT is able to serve as the common enemy. In Pernambuco, dialogue has disappeared, dividing the governor, Roberto Magalhaes, and the representative, Miguel Arraes. In Parana, no rapprochement is possible, and in Rio Grande do Sul it is even worse. Add Goias, Ceara, Bahia, and the other states, and you will have the recipe for a dish of confrontation to be served at almost every table.

Even without being completely defined, the electoral panorama makes the relationship between the PMDB and the PFL unviable; they have broken over the quest for votes and for growth and affirmation, and now also over the choice of a new minister. According to President Sarney, the government wanted to be

the result of support from the two parties, but he relies more and more upon the PFL, even though formally he ought not to lean one way or the other during the campaigns. Formally, it is important to repeat, because in practice the liberal ministers will be much more disposed to help their own candidates. The PMBD ministers, although they are not confirmed by, are at least helped by, their own party, and, as a result, do not have to engage fully in the electoral process.

Within the context of this year's congressional efforts, weakened probably by the electoral campaigns, the PMDB and the PFL are going to confront each other, even though neither will have any impact upon the activities of the National Assembly next year. And what is especially important to this year's elections is the prediction that the members of the PMBD who are most likely to win are those who have been most critical of the government.

Recognizing that this is the case, the so-called independent left of Ulysses Guimaraes' party is already seeking an alliance with like-minded elements, beginning with Governor Leonel Brizola. This group, which calls itself the Progressive Front, will want to create a constitution which fits with its principles, described as "advanced" and reformist. The PFL, with the tacit or implicit support of the PDS, will take on a neutralizing role, and they will be successful if they can gain support from the PMBD moderates, and if there is a sufficient number of such moderates. On which side President Jose Sarney will place himself is quite clear.

If this is the present forecast of events to come, how can one help but think that the presidential succession will follow the same course. It must!

So the PFL will have to have its own candidate, and at this point he would appear to be Minister Marco Maciel, even though Aureliano Chaves has some chance. In the PMDB, the natural choice would be Ulysses Guimaraes. Leonel Brizola will certainly vie for the PDT spot, with Janio Quadros running for the PTB in spite of his having retired. It only remains to be seen if the PDS will insist upon Paulo Maluf, because the PT will certainly enter the battle on its own terms. If two or three casual candidates are added, thrust forward by minor parties or ideological forces, the result will be one of the most mixed bags of succession in the country's history.

The electoral laws, wisely changed in May of last year, did not only reestablish direct presidential elections. They provide also for the principle of absolute majority; i.e., if none of the parties achieves the target of one more than half of the valid votes cast, there will be a second round in which only the two which gained the most votes will compete. At that point, the climax of the national debate will be reached, and some people assume that it will be ideological. But it doesn't matter, because the "combinations" will be varied. Ulysses Guimaraes in first place and Leonel Brizola in second would bring about a forced coalition of the PFL and the PMDB, the only circumstance under which the tattered Democratic Alliance would be revived. But Marco Maciel in first place and Leonel Brizola in second, or vice versa? Or even Ulysses

Guimaraes out front, and Marco Maciel immediately behind? The risk for the two parties responsible for establishing the New Republic is immense. It is a permanent risk, no matter what the scenario.

All in all, the Democratic Alliance is through. It is a dead letter. It was useful, but it is no longer so, in spite of President Jose Sarney's hopes.

BRAZIL

FUNARO DENIES PLANNED LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR TREATMENT IN MAY

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Feb 86 p 37

[Text] Finance Minister Dilson Funaro yesterday denied vehemently that he would take a leave of absence from his position in May in order to continue treatment in the United States for cancer of the lymphatic system. The announcement that he would do so appeared yesterday in the CORREIO BRAZILIENSE. "The announcement of my departure has no basis. It is not true. It seems that some people know more than my physicians," said the minister.

The denial was made by Funaro late in the morning when he arrived at the Finance Ministry from a meeting with President Jose Sarney and the "house ministers." In the afternoon, the spokesman for the ministry, Marco Antonio Diniz Branda, also commented on the announcement, pointing out that the finance minister, at the beginning of last month, shortly after confirming the news that his illness had recurred, promised to reveal anything that was new with relation to his treatment. The spokesman observed that if the announcement regarding the leave of absence were true, Funaro would have announced it or confirmed it.

According to the Brasilia newspaper, Funaro was to travel to the United States in order to complete the second stage of treatment for his illness. He was to move from the chemotherapy phase to radiology. This would necessitate the minister's interruption of his work schedule temporarily. The paper added that in the event of Funaro's absence, the ministry would be run by Secretary-General of Portfolio Joao Batista de Abreu. The authority for economic policy would go to Planning Minister Joao Sayad until the treatment was completed.

Funaro was able to overcome the first phase of his illness in 1983 and 1984. The treatment was prolonged and required him to go to the United States several times for chemotherapy and radiology sessions. With the illness in abeyance, Funaro returned to his normal activities. He was invited by President Jose Sarney to assume the post of minister of finance in place of Francisco Dornelles. At the end of last December, a routine examination showed that the cancer had returned, still in an initial phase.

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CSO: 3342/79

BRAZIL

ARMY MINISTER SCORES BRIZOLA CAMPAIGN FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Feb 86 p 4

[Interview of Minister of the Army Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves on 27 February in Porto Alegre]

[Text] Yesterday in Porto Alegre, Minister of the Army General Leonidas Pires Goncalves condemned Rio de Janeiro Governor Leonel Brizola's (PDT) campaign for direct elections for the presidency of the republic this year, and the deliberations of certain sectors of the PMDB with regard to a constitutional reduction of President Sarney's term to 3 years, which would lead to a presidential election in 1987. The minister declared that it was "admissible" to reduce the presidential term to 4 years, but added that a shorter period would constitute an unjustifiable impeachment. Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves said also that he trusts that the leaders of the PMDB and the PFL will have a "sense of political responsibility" and of "patriotism," and not break up the Democratic Alliance, because this would destabilize the country. All in all, the minister stated that the current political turbulence is natural and presents no risk of political regression.

In addition to giving a collective interview at Salgado Filho Airport on his arrival from Brasilia in the morning, the minister spoke with the Porto Alegre branch of O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO and the JORNAL DA TARDE.

The interview follows:

[Question] How do you analyze the situation with regard to the supporting party of the government, the Democratic Alliance, which some party leaders consider already to have been split?

[Answer] The government, the New Republic, has as a base what I call a large supporting beam--the Democratic Alliance. This beam is supported, in turn, by two pillars. One is the PMDB, and the other is the Frente Liberal. I have perfect confidence that the men who are allied with one or the other of these pillars will have a sense of functional responsibility, that is, political, and will be patriotic enough to see that they cannot destabilize the beam, because to do so would be to destabilize Brazil. It is for this reason that I have faith that nothing bad will happen.

[Question] Aren't the manifestations of a split in the Democratic Alliance that have been happening, especially on the part of the PMDB, the result of party decisions? Or are they just isolated events?

[Answer] The only circumstance under which I see the beam (the Democratic Alliance) developing a fissure or a rupture is if the promises made by the two pillars (PMBD and PFL) have been broken. Those promises are intact. The government has not only respected them, it has followed them. Now, if this is true, then minor matters and particulars cannot be important, and certainly will not exist.

[Question] Many of the promises made at the time of the formation of the Democratic Alliance have already been accomplished, but there are some politicians who feel that there are many yet to be delivered. What is your opinion?

[Answer] The political life of a nation is dynamic. I believe and admit that new aspects are added to the original promises. And the same harmony and the same understanding ought to be brought to these new aspects as there was previously. And I'll tell you something else: it is possible that other good patriots will align themselves with those who currently are the supporting beam of the government. Because we have to consider--it is a simple, military conviction--that Brazil is equal to anything.

[Question] There has been such discussion in political circles of the issue of the duration of President Sarney's term. Some feel that he has an acquired right to a 6 year term, and that this can be changed only with his agreement. Other want an election in '87, or even '86. What is your position?

[Answer] What the constitution stipulates, as we all know, is that President Sarney's term is 6 years. Both Tancredo Neves and President Sarney have admitted that the voters could reduce this period to 4 years. I also feel that this is admissible. Less than that I would consider to be an impeachment of President Sarney--some want to reduce it to less than 4 years, but they are not the voters. For a man who is showing a high sense of responsibility, and who shows a dedication every day to performing in an exemplary manner, and who has shown great political ability, this attitude represents an injustice and an impropriety. I know that the majority of the Brazilian people are not going to let that happen.

[Question] This is the first political unrest that the New Republic has experienced. Do you think that it is serious?

[Answer] I think that it has a seriousness that is predictable in a country of our size that has experienced the political oscillations of the past 2 or 3 years, and I feel that it is natural. There is no flight without some turbulence, and, when all is said and done, this is a political flight for the country.

[Question] Can the more radical political proposals, especially with regard to the presidential term and the party base of the government, lead to regression or the risk of regression?

[Answer] No. I think that the Brazilian people are "drenched" with the democratic spirit. So, I have no fear of that.

At the collective interview given on his arrival, the minister of the army, in addition to making known his feelings against the reduction of term for President Sarney to less than 4 years, and speaking of essentially military matters, was asked how he felt about the statements of Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso that the government is being influenced by the military from the moderate wing who are friends of the president. "That is his opinion. I can tell you that the Army does not command the government. The Army today is dedicated to its professional activities, so that it can become more and more an instrument capable of achieving its destiny," he assured them.

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BRAZIL

PLAN TO DESTABILIZE FINANCIAL SYSTEM REPORTED

PY121327 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Mar 86 p 25

[Text] Brasilia--In a dramatic tone of voice, Central Bank President Fernao Bracher yesterday reported the existence of an "organized mechanism" that is seeking to destabilize the financial system and discredit the government's program of economic changes. Even though he refused to give details, Bracher said that the rumors are so serious that for the first time he has had to ask "the appropriate authorities" to conduct an investigation.

He said: It is a well-coordinated mechanism operated by experts. I am furious. I had not realized we were dealing with professionals. I want to congratulate them.

Bracher did not endorse the theory of a conspiracy, because it would be "the easiest conclusion," but stressed that "there are many people involved, because they will make a lot of money with all this."

Bracher's denunciation came unexpectedly. As an interview with FENABAN (National Bank Federation) President Roberto Bonhausen was coming to an end, an assistant announced that Bracher was coming from his office on the 20th floor and that he would host a press conference on the first floor. This is what he said:

Rumors are circulating, and I am concerned about them because the financial system is absolutely sound. There is a group of people who want to disrupt this program and prevent it from fulfilling its objectives. To this end, they have attacked the financial system. But the financial system, which is supported by the Central Bank, is absolutely sound. If someone says the opposite, it is because he has received wrong information or because he has bad intentions. I ask for everyone's cooperation to prevent the creation of an atmosphere of distrust, because there is no reason for distrust. The system is sound, and it has the support of the government.

Bracher asked the people to cooperate and "report and charge" those who circulate rumors on difficulties that this bank or any other may be facing in connection with the economic stabilization program.

However, during the press conference he admitted that the banks will have to undergo an "operational rationalization" process to adjust themselves to the fact that there will be no more monetary corrections, which was their main source of profit. He said interest rates will naturally drop as a result of the new market conditions.

He added: There will be a money surplus because of increased demand deposits and reduced investment in speculation.

The banks will have to use that money to invest in government securities, which yield 15 percent a year, or to grant loans at competitive interest rates, which should be lower than the current ones.

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7 April 1986

BRAZIL

NORTH KOREA SEEKS TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE, INCREASED TRADE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Mar 86 p 2

[Text] Brazil and North Korea may establish diplomatic relations on the basis of a commercial exchange program between the two countries, according to representatives of the Committee for the Promotion of International Commerce of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, who yesterday began a round of visits with this objective in mind.

The visitors, who are traveling under the leadership of Paw Gyong Rak, were at the Senate yesterday afternoon, where they were received by the first secretary, Eneas Faria (PMDB-PR); they announced their intention that North Korea import soy meal, soy oil, sugar, and other articles, in exchange for metallurgical products such as zinc and nonferrous metals.

According to what Gyong Rak told Eneas Faria, North Korea is also interested in an exchange of technology with Brazil, especially in the area of petroleum and in the electrical and electronic sectors. One of the members of the delegation, Cho Ki Yong, is a petroleum technician, and he will probably establish contact this week with Petrobras. In the area of electronic and electrical products, the North Koreans have already developed contacts with the industrial park at Curitiba, which they visited prior to arriving at Brasilia. The director of the Madebras Trading Company, Odene Fortes Martins, from the Parana capital, accompanied the Koreans.

During yesterday's presentation to First Secretary Eneas Faria, Gyong Rak explained that North Korea is engaged in an audacious project designed to extend its land area by 300,000 hectares into the sea. Up until now, the project has already succeeded in an extension of 100,000 hectares along the coastline, and it is expected that the target of 300,000 hectares will be completed by the end of the 80's.

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BRAZIL

BRIEFS

INFLATION FIGURES--The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics has reported that the inflation rate was 14.36 percent in February, compared to 16.23 percent in January. The accumulated inflation rate for the period March 1985 to February 1986 totals 255.16 percent. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 27 Feb 86 PY] /8918

SARNEY TO VISIT PORTUGAL--President Jose Sarney on 3 May will begin a trip to Portugal to discuss political projects and the future with President Mario Soares. He will also visit Cape Verde, in Africa, to consolidate friendship ties and to reaffirm his rejection of the racist regime. [Excerpt] [Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 14 Mar 86 PY] /8918

CSO: 3342/81

CHILE

STUDENT MOVEMENT SEEN INCREASINGLY POTENT FORCE

Santiago MENSAJE in Spanish Dec 85 pp 508-510

[By Esteban Valenzuela and Eduardo Silva, of the Society of Jesus]

[Text] The university student movement has been turned into a social actor of increasingly greater relevance in the course of democratizing Chile and rebuilding powerful, social organizations which are essential for the future. As the student movement has many facets, we may describe its principal characteristics--both the progress it has made as well as the difficulties it is going through. We may describe, in particular, its difficult task of stimulating a transition to democracy in the universities, thus making its special contribution to the national evolution toward democracy. No doubt the central aspect of the student movement (ME) which has developed during these years of authoritarian government has been its unquestionable capacity to mobilize people for national democratic demands and its inevitable transformation into a significant social and political factor. This has been due to the lack of a legal political arena and to structural problems which have affected the trade union movement, preventing it from becoming a center for necessary changes in the political system.

The Development of Federations

The ME went through the stage of pre-institutional organization--which was concentrated in cultural centers and committees to promote student participation--beginning with the start of the protest movement in May 1983. These early forms of organization provided definitive encouragement to the development of mass student groups and to the process of rebuilding centers for democratic students and directly elected student federations. The university students had the capacity to concentrate their energies, not only on the preparation of "the monthly protest meeting" but they also combined a form of social mobilization with the establishment of federations which unquestionably represented all students, in which each one of the various sectors of the student body could take part in decision making. In this way the ME ceased being "a movement of the most politically aware" which expressed itself occasionally at cultural demonstrations in favor of human rights or university autonomy. It turned itself into a movement representing the majority of the students which succeeded in overcoming efforts by university authorities to split the students into small groups and to subject them to repression.

The initiative for the rebuilding of the student federations originated in the provinces. This was how the Student Federation of Concepcion (FEC) and the Student Federation of the Catholic University of Valparaiso (FEUC-V) came into being. This process became a national movement, and in October 1984 as well as in May 1985 the opposition won direct elections in the two principal federations: the FECH [Chilean Federation of Students] and the FEUC in Santiago [Student Federation of the Catholic University of Santiago]. In this way the concept of student organization as a kind of "guild" was definitively defeated in the universities. The ME, despite continuing repression and, in some cases, a refusal by the authorities to recognize student organizations, consolidated the process of rebuilding the student federations. Now almost all of the universities, professional institutes, and regional student centers have held federation elections. (The last two institutions in which elections were held were the University of Talca and USACH, formerly known as the State Technical University.) Occurring at the same time as this process was the birth of the Chilean Council of Student Federations (CONFECH), established a few days before the promulgation of the state of siege in November 1984. This organization, which provides leadership for the university movement, includes 25 student federations, all of them controlled by the opposition to the government.

In the majority of the federations opposition political forces have won out as a general rule. Nevertheless, tendencies have been seen which lead to the dispersion of the principal opposition groups, especially in connection with discussions on the way to direct the mobilization of the students and, more recently, with the promulgation of the National Agreement for the Transition to Full Democracy. The principal political force within the ME is the Christian Democracy group (it presides over the principal university federations), followed by the Communist Party (particularly in the case of provincial student federations). There is also a significant presence of socialist groups: the Socialist Bloc (made up of MAPU [United Popular Action Movement] and the PS [Socialist Party] - Briones Faction), the PS - Almeyda Faction, and the IC [Christian Left]. Regarding movements of the Right, the most important are the traditional groups (the MUN [National Unity Movement] and the PN [National Party]). Student guilds and nationalist groups are in the minority.

Partial Demands

One of the virtues of the ME as compared to other social movements has been its ability to make partial or limited demands as part of its democratic duties. That is why the movement has not remained isolated in the development of national democratic demands which, when the protests are over, began to produce frustration and a feeling of ineffectiveness. For that reason the students have made demands which can be achieved and which strengthen their capacity to speak for the majority. These demands range from essentially economic petitions (for scholarships and loans) to requests for the respect of human rights (freedom for the students and the readmission of expelled students) to academic issues (better facilities and a greater degree of pluralism) to the recognition of student organizations, and even include petitions to regain "university" status for their training centers (as in the case of the occupational institutes).

For a Process of Transition in the Universities

However, there is no doubt that the most important question is whether the ME has been able to develop a program for the reestablishment of democracy in the universities which would be effective in the event of a political transition. This has been done in only a few federations, which have been able to make progress and move forward in this direction. It is necessary to take into account the fact that a process of transition in the universities necessarily involves the possibility of developing an understanding and concerted action between the ME and members of the faculty regarding a proposal which, in addition to being viable, should include the minimum steps to achieve a real transition or university normalization. At this point ME groups which have made excessive demands have gone beyond acceptable limits. That is, if the students raise only partial demands, they will not be able to provide basic answers to the problems of the university. Hence the importance of ensuring that the national level of the ME is capable of preparing a proposal for a period of transition to the university community as a whole. This does not presently exist in any strict sense but must be recreated.

It is at the University of Chile that the ME has made the most progress in this respect. An example of this is the fact that two of the faculties have refused to accept their government-appointed deans, beginning a process of providing these faculties with participatory arrangements for the choice of their own senior authorities. However, this has been possible, thanks to two developments. The FECH, for its part, has prepared a "Proposal of Change for the University of Chile" which is sufficiently realistic to avoid arousing the suspicions of the academics and which brings together almost all of the students in support of the strategy contained in it. This proposal was accompanied by a mobilization of the students which, in the cases of the Faculties of Medicine and Engineering, was sufficiently large to underline the lack of legitimacy in the military occupation of the university. And, on the part of the Association of Academics of the University of Chile, this has led to a determined effort to achieve the normalization of the university.

In the case of the Catholic University the transition has been more complex. In particular, this is due to the central role which the Catholic Church plays in it. The holding of a session of the Plenary Student Council took place in a context providing substance to the process of transition to normality at the university. The discussion and application of the program which the Plenary Student Council prepared may make necessary the holding of a council session which will now bring together the entire university community. The Association of Professors feels itself increasingly involved. The Catholic University does not have the degree of cohesion and mobilization achieved at the University of Chile, but it shows signs of becoming sensitive to the university crisis. Integration between professors and students, a fundamental factor in achieving the release of the designated student leaders, appears to be a priority task for the future of the Catholic University. Finally, we should point out the fact that the university is a Catholic and pontifical institution. Efforts have been made by the students (holding a seminar on the practice of the Catholic faith) and by the professors (through the organization of committees) to reflect in critical fashion on the

consequences and implications which this basic condition implies and thus to be able to judge in the light of this reflection what the Catholic University has been over the last few years. Many of the ideas from the time of the Reformation are still fully valid and applicable. Problems such as the relationship with the local church and the Vatican, the ability of the Church to encourage the development of a culture which permits a dialogue and a meeting point between the traditional faith and science, its degree of commitment and its openness to the decisions made by the Latin American bishops--these, among other matters, appear to be urgent questions. The search for normality at the Catholic University has been greatly strengthened by its Catholic character. This makes it essential for the Conference of Catholic Bishops to make a statement on the status of the Catholic University of Chile and on the other Catholic universities in the country.

An Actor on the National Scene

As we were saying at the beginning of this article, the most significant development has been the emergence of the ME as a decisive actor on the national scene. In the presently unstructured state of Chilean society the forces deployed for the mobilization of the ME have appeared to have been "strengthened." With the development of the protests, these began to be concentrated on "university actions during the day" and "barricades set up by young people during the night." This has led to the fact that senior trade union leaders in the National Workers Commando gave privileged status during 1985 to those who were called upon for social mobilization with the student federations, given the lack of agreement with other sectors such as merchants, transport personnel, and occupational training schools. The result of this was the manhunt carried out against trade union, student, and popular leaders, as a result of the call for a day of mobilization for social claims, which was held on 4 September. And a sign of the strength developed by the ME was the release of the student leaders, thanks to an enormous mobilization of students, the greatest assembly of students recorded during these 12 years under the military regime. And we said that the strength of the ME had been "increased," as a result of the lack of organization and ability to negotiate with the state on the part of the people's movement. And, above all, this was the result of the structural problems of Chilean authoritarian capitalism--a high rate of unemployment, the weakness of the trade unions, and the repression of the people. These factors inhibit a more articulate expression of the views of the middle classes and of the workers' movement.

The other reason for the importance of the ME at the national level is the lack of "institutional space for political confrontation." That means that this consideration has turned the university federations into the most clearly marked "center for measuring the strength" of the various political groups. An eloquent demonstration of this point was the last election held by the FECH, where the freedom of the ME was diluted by the "need" for the various political parties to display their various policies. Hence the national importance attached to the FECH election and the extensive coverage of it in the information media. Furthermore, the ME is providing the country with "new faces" for the reestablishment of a future generation of political leaders, since the politics of youth are basically played out in the university context.

Some Challenges

The principal question for the future will be the capacity of the ME to implement, through an "intelligent strategy," what we call "its sequence of partial demands," the encouragement it will give to "the transition phase in the universities," and the struggle "for democracy in Chile." Now, the success it achieves in this effort will not only depend on the capability of the various student social and political organizations to work together. The implementation of these strategies will be directly linked to how other sectors of the university community function and to the development of political figures at the national level. These different levels in the struggle of the university movement interact. They define each other and provide each other with mutual assistance.

As we stated previously, the ME in opposition will be stronger in terms of its unity and more effective to the extent that it makes use of a method for integrating the majority. When we speak of unity, we are referring to adhesion to a program and a form which the students themselves will determine. Nevertheless, it can be said that the most successful form of unity for the ME has been developed within the context of the civic struggle, which excludes violent tactics which isolate student organizations. This may be summarized in the capacity of the ME to integrate into its efforts the academics and the right-wing elements within the ME. This means that they will support the demands made. This is not a matter of becoming involved in semantic or ideological discussions on violence or the integration of right-wing groups. Rather, it involves the capacity of determining what is more effective and convenient. This is what facilitates determining who is to be excluded, and it involves understanding the fact that a fully coherent university community will make a future transition period possible. This is what we could call an "Effective University Agreement."

Finally, we must insist on the importance of an ME at the national level, which will enter into history as one of the most generous social sectors in the democratization of Chile and, to the extent possible, as a victorious participant in society.

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CHILE

STUDENT ELECTIONS TAKE MEASURE OF POLITICAL CURRENTS

Santiago MENSAJE in Spanish Dec 85 pp 488-490

[Article by Jose Joaquin Brunner]

[Text] Student elections have acquired a disproportionate visibility, due to the fact that they provide the country with one of the few places where the influence of the various political groups can be measured. In general, the results show a clear predominance of the forces of the Center and the Left which are identified with the opposition. In fact, opposition alliances control all of the principal student federations throughout the country, both in public as well as in private universities, in the metropolitan areas and in the countryside, in old as well as in new institutions.

If we study the electoral results during 1985, we may arrive at some preliminary conclusions:

(1) Christian Democracy is the strongest student force and, in general, in 1985 it maintained the strength it had in 1984. Compared to 1972, its electoral strength increased at the University of Concepcion and, to a lesser extent, at the Catholic University of Valparaiso and the Catholic University of Chile.

(2) The Left is keeping its strong presence in all of the universities. The electoral lists of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) regularly receive a majority of the leftist vote. The Socialist Bloc, made up of socialist elements and the MAPU [United Popular Action Movement], has fluctuated between 5 and 10 percent in the various elections, but it has only slight influence in several important faculties of the principal universities. In general, the Left increased its vote between 1984 and 1985. Compared to 1972, its performance has improved at the Catholic universities but has declined at the Universities of Chile and Concepcion.

(3) The Right is weak in the new and regional institutions, and in Santiago its electoral support takes two forms: one, rather more independent of the government (the University Front), which is predominant at the University of Chile, where it has grew by comparison with 1972 but declined slightly between 1984 and 1985; and the other, more official (the student guild type), which only has a significant voice at the Catholic University of Chile, where its vote declined between 1972 and 1985. The places where the right wing vote was traditionally weak have not changed: the Faculties of Sciences, Philosophy and Art of the University of Chile; the former Pedagogical Institute of the

University of Chile; and the present Santiago Professional Institute. In both of these institutions the students are members of the FECH.

Level of Political Activity

The attempt to depoliticize the student world, encouraged by the present regime, has unquestionably failed. As various analysts have pointed out, including some political leaders of the Right, instead of depoliticization the regime in fact has promoted the polarization of student attitudes. Some temporary phenomena have contributed to that: government intervention in the universities; poor university management by the majority of the rectors appointed by the government; the long period of forced hibernation to which institutions of higher education were subjected; the failure of the "student guild" form of organization promoted by the Right to offer an alternative to the political parties and their youth groups; and acts of repression against student leaders and university youth.

On the other hand the continued existence of political activity within the universities has deeper causes. What is happening is that these institutions have a high political potential by their very nature. The majority of the intellectuals of the country and a significant proportion of the young people likely to hold leadership positions in society are to be found at the universities. Now this combination would be enough by itself to turn the universities into centers for the discussion and expression of political ideas. However, in addition the universities concentrate a large number of students in a few places. These students communicate with each other easily and tend to form groups in accordance with their ideological preferences. By their very training the students are "externally oriented." They want to know what is happening around them. They want to listen to and criticize their elders. They want to participate in national life. They are concerned about their future entry into the labor market, into social organization, and into politics.

In short, to activate the political potential of the universities, "agitators" are not needed, nor is the encouragement of the political parties required. Political life is naturally to be found in the universities. The most interesting aspect is how to channel it.

Autonomy or Subordination

After the government failed in its effort to depoliticize the universities, there is now a risk that student politics will be wholly subordinated to the strategic interests of the political parties. The recent election in the FECH illustrates this risk. (This refers to the first round of this election.) It will be remembered that the Christian Democracy party and the Communist Party imposed on their respective youth groups a definition of the "National Agreement for the Transition to Full Democracy" which consisted of accepting or rejecting it. The result was that the united action which had

been a major factor in the student movement until then was broken. This did not happen as a consequence of the university struggle itself.

As we have shown, political life has a life of its own in the universities. When objections were made to the direct intervention of the political parties in the student movement, no arguments were presented in favor of the depoliticization of the universities, which in fact could not be achieved, nor in favor of a flat and narrow student guild type of organization. The autonomy of the student movement (and the same consideration applies to the trade union movement, to the professional colleges and to guild type organizations) was raised as a specific condition for political life to be accepted in each social sphere, in an atmosphere of independence and as a function of the specific problems of the social group involved. Therefore, what was involved was avoiding having a single criterion (for example, in favor of or against the National Agreement for the Transition to Full Democracy) turned into a dividing line affecting all of society, separating one group of people from others, disregarding the particular features of each situation, institution, electoral circumstance, or tradition concerned.

If this principle had not been accepted, there would have been a serious risk of transferring to all social organizations the quarrels and battles in which the political parties are involved.

For their part social movements, if they wish to preserve their autonomy and unity, need to enter into political life, not as mere appendages of the political parties, but in accordance with the needs of their local area of activity. In this sense the student movement is still relatively weak and undeveloped. The positions it expresses to the university authorities are too general, are often rhetorical in tone and at times are poorly informed. They lack academic precision and do not propose viable goals capable of attracting the support of the professors and of public opinion.

Lessons from the FECH

The recent election (that is, the first round) in the FECH was a product of the previous situation--where the interventionist attitude of the political parties was added to the still underdeveloped characteristics of the student movement. Pending a final decision by the student body between the two winning lists--the Christian Democracy and the Social Democracy groups, on the one hand, and the MDP [Popular Democratic Movement], on the other, several interesting phenomena are already visible. They are:

- (1) The almost unanimous repudiation of the present state of affairs at the University of Chile. In effect, no list undertook the defense of the university in its present condition, since it was taken over by the government. No list sought to defend the rector appointed by the government or the exclusion of any group from university life.

(2) The complete support given to the idea of giving back to the university its democratic and participative statute and providing room for the free discussion of ideas.

(3) The rejection by a majority of the students of a division of the student movement along purely political party lines. In fact, the Right expressed itself more effectively as a United Front which wishes to show that it is independent. The Christian Democracy group resisted until the last moment the suggestion that it should present itself as a single list. During the election the MDP did not raise the issue of a national uprising and the use of all methods of struggle.

Under these conditions it is not reasonable to suggest that the election results in the FECH can be projected to the national level. The university is a universe which is not very representative of the country. It is a purely educational institution, with its own, very special traditions, with a large number of youth coming for the most part from the middle class. These elections involve local leadership but not the destiny and the immediate future of the nation. Therefore, it would be difficult to draw from this election conclusions that would be valid for the whole country.

On the other hand, as we have shown, there are lessons which can be learned from a special situation like that affecting the FECH. The Military Government, in view of the massive repudiation which its university policies have generated and the isolated position in which it finds itself within the student movement, will be obliged to reconsider its position. From now on the university authorities will not be able to continue refusing to recognize the FECH, whose representative and legitimate character has been strengthened. In the light of these results the political parties will be able to study which are now the best ways of carrying on the political struggle. The student movement itself will have to think about how to restore its unity and how to strengthen its clearly university-oriented forms of expression. Public opinion will know how to evaluate the effects of government policy. Finally, the Armed Forces will have to think more seriously about how they can deal with a university situation which, with only a few exceptions is continuing to deteriorate or, in a few cases, remains static but has no prospects of improvement.

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CHILE

PROFESSORS' ASSOCIATION CANDIDATES EXPOUND PLATFORMS

Santiago CAUCE in Spanish 3 Dec 85 pp 22-23

[Interview with Francisco Fuentes, leader of the Intransigencia Democratica --Democratic Intransigence--list in the elections for national, regional, and local councils of professors; date and place not specified]

[Text] In December the College of Professors is holding elections. Four lists of candidates are in the running for national, regional, and local councils of professors. For the approximately 120,000 professors these elections are of enormous importance, since, going back to the military coup d'etat in 1973, the leaders of the teachers' guild, as in case of other organizations, have been appointed by the Pinochet government. The political breathing space which the workers have gained for the democratization of the country will make it possible to hold democratic elections in the teaching profession. However, things are still not very clear. The present leadership supports the government and was appointed by it. It is conducting these elections, organizing them as it wishes. The exact number of voters is still not known, nor are the names of those on the electoral register known. Anyone wishing to learn more about these matters must raise the matter in a letter to the Metropolitan Council.

For this reason many of the candidates are expressing concern, pointing out that the electoral situation should be clear before the voting begins. For his part Jorge Oliva, a candidate on List "D" of the Democratic Intransigence group, has let his concern be known regarding the arbitrary elimination of candidates which reportedly has affected his group in Arica Province. Osvaldo Verdugo, of the Alianza Democratica [Democratic Alliance] list, denounced the same kind of situation in Antofagasta and Iquique. In our issue No 49 we announced the candidates of two lists: Waldemar Cortes, of the Democracy and Humanism list (List "A") and Osvaldo Verdugo, for the Democratization list (List "C").

In this issue we interview Francisco Fuentes (List "D"). He is a teacher from Valparaiso and a former leader of the Chilean Federation of Educators and the Central Organization of Workers of Valparaiso. Francisco Fuentes stated that List "D" which he heads is composed of representatives of political groups which support the Democratic Intransigence party, among which are the MDP, the Communist Party, and the Mandujano faction of the Socialist Party, in addition to the Historic Socialists, the Christian Left, and the MAPU.

In short his program supports the passage of a statute covering the teaching profession in tune with the realities facing teachers and the grant of civil service to them, using the principles of seniority and merit. He supports the reestablishment of the triennial pay system and real improvements in remuneration, with a basic salary of not less than 25,000 pesos. He also advocates ending municipal control of the teaching profession because he considers that the College of Professors should assume responsibility for teachers training and should be consulted on educational policy.

Together with List "C" "For Democratization," this group represents the entire opposition spectrum in the country.

[Question] Why has the opposition presented separate lists of candidates? Don't you think that when you are trying to regain control of a semi-official professional college and to end the practice of the arbitrary appointment of its leaders, the opposition would be stronger if it presented itself as a single bloc?

[Answer] Our position has been and remains that of supporting the broadest kind of unity among the teachers. Therefore, the cause of Chilean teachers is more important than any temporary agreement or disagreement among some of the opposition political groups.

Our list represents the forces which belong to the Democratic Intransigence group, from the Left to the republican Right.

No doubt uniting everyone in the opposition would bring us closer and more quickly toward achieving the democratic objectives of the country. For that reason our list "For the Democratization of the College and Unity Among the Teachers" will continue to work for guild unity. Furthermore, it is only proper for the views of the professors to be expressed in the most pluralistic and democratic way possible. In this country we are so accustomed to decisions made in a dictatorial way!

[Question] Would your list redefine the professional qualifications of the College of Professors in favor of a more clearly trade union type of organization?

[Answer] The College of Professors has been brought under the control of the government authorities. We want to rescue it from this kind of supervision to return to the professors the dignity which has been taken away from them and to provide them with the necessary opportunities for participation and the leadership required to defend our rights by ourselves.

We professors are alternatives to social and institutional forces whose function is violence. We professors are here to teach, to promote the constructive forces of the country. We are the moral reserves of the fatherland and an irreplaceable force for rebuilding a democratic Chile.

We should not ignore the fact that the historical struggle of the teaching profession has been more trade union oriented than anything else. Nevertheless, I think that it is important to expand our efforts to an increasing extent. Our teachers college should cover matters such as professional training.

[Question] What attitude will your list adopt toward the AGECH [General Association of Chilean Educators]? Would you invite it to work with you in establishing a single professional organization for Chilean teachers?

[Answer] Certainly, the AGECH is an organization representative of Chilean teachers. As such, we should move toward uniting ourselves in the kind of single large movement we have always had, in reality.

[Question] And regarding the professional colleges and the federation of which they are members?

[Answer] We highly value the patriotic attitude of the colleges in the fight for democracy. We are ashamed that the authorities appointed by the government in the college have taken over the efforts made by professional teachers to lead the way to democracy in Chile.

List "B": "Advance and Consolidation of the Teachers' Guild"

Juana Araya [interviewee] is currently the president of the Metropolitan Council of the College of Professors. The program of this list was not sent to us, nor was a brief biography of Alicia Cienfuegos, who heads this list. Cienfuegos is the director of Liceo A-70. It should be stated that Juana Araya is not a candidate for the National Council of the College of Professors.

[Question] Does your list totally support the management efforts of the university council presided over by Juan E. Gariazzo?

[Answer] As is indicated by the name of this list, "Advance and Consolidation of the Teachers' Guild," those of us who make up this list think that it is necessary to support the positive achievements made in the material sense--the establishment of the AFP-Magister [the Association of Professional Civil Servants-Teachers], the construction of the Hospital for Professors, the acquisition of regional centers and the center for summer vacations, the provision of assistance in the form of loans, etc--like those which propose raising the dignity of the teachers guild. The same is true with training and development courses, with courses for providing degree equivalents for professors who do not have them, the establishment of cultural centers, the holding of literary and artistic competitions, the grant of professional scholarships, etc. We think that this useful work cannot be denied or ignored by efforts to hide it, primarily for political reasons.

[Question] Do you think that at present a large number of members of the College of Professors identify themselves with the leadership of Juan E. Gariazzo?

[Answer] As a survey has never been made on this subject, it would not be objective to give a flat answer. We believe that anyone who is engaged in the struggle to achieve an improvement in the human and professional situation facing teachers is subject to criticism of all kinds and, as we can commit errors in doing things, for we are all human, there are those who question his leadership. However, above all no one can deny the achievements made here. It will be time and history which will judge the work done by the present leadership, objectively and dispassionately.

[Question] What is your position on the Federation of Professional Colleges? Do you think that it is possible for the College of Professors to join it and support its positions?

[Answer] All guild-type institutions deserve our most decided respect, since they are responsible for protecting the interests of their members and for relating those interests in a just educational system with the needs of the community as a whole. Now, when teachers' guilds appear to receive less consideration compared to other types of interest groups, we are not in a position to criticize. However, at the same time we cannot ignore the spirit which animates our association.

[Question] Do you think that in the future the College of Professors and the AGECH could unite under a common program, representing all Chilean teachers?

[Answer] We think that this would be a highly positive step, because it is known that any kind of duplication in the guild structure damages the higher interests of the guild. We should note that the College of Professors has never opposed action favoring the interests of all teachers, without excluding anyone, and it seeks objectives strictly related to the teachers guild.

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CHILE

CNT LEADER DISCUSSES ARRESTED WORKERS, POLITICIANS

PY141906 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 6 Mar 86 p C3

[Text] During a press conference, National Workers Command (CNT) Vice President Manuel Bustos revealed that during the 1 May festivities "John Vanderveken, secretary general of the International Conference of Free Trade Union Organization [ICFTUO] will possibly visit us."

According to Bustos, the conference was held "to express our concern over the situation of the workers and politicians arrested on court orders." Bustos also announced that the CNT is dismayed at the death of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, "who was a great friend of the Third World."

Bustos added that "we have expressed our repudiation of the assassination of this man who loved peace, and we will express our solidarity and our condolences to the Swedish ambassador in Chile."

In addition, Bustos stated: "On 1 May we plan to open an important new front. ICFTUO Secretary General John Vanderveken and the president of the U.S. AFL-CIO might visit us."

The CNT secretary general spoke after Bustos at a ceremony marking International Women's Day.

National Federation of Railroad Workers President Miguel Munoz also spoke. He stated that his organization will watch over "the freedom of the workers arrested because of the train accident in Queronque."

In turn, Confederation of Private Business Workers President Federico Mujica stated that his organization is very concerned over the dramatic situation arising from price increase in basic foodstuffs. In addition, Mujica reported that "in northern Chile, staples are being smuggled into Peru and Bolivia, something which is causing huge shortages and gives rise to price speculation."

Finally, in response to a question posed by the press, CNT Vice President Manuel Bustos said that "we are not joining any movement that may emerge against the government. Especially if its actions lead us nowhere. We congratulate them only when they really serve to create democratic conditions in the country.

CHILE

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS FAVOR SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

PY151312 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Claudio Huepe, vice chairman of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], feels that the creation of a national command for social mobilization based on an agreement among the three [as heard] parties of the Democratic Alliance, the Republican Party and the Briones-led Socialist Party, is a positive development. He emphasized that the PDC is strong at the grassroots level, and added that the call for all organizations to participate in this command will permit a careful study of the possibilities of making the grassroots social agreements also effective at the leadership level.

Huepe recalled that in his speech this week, Gabriel Valdes referred to PDC participation in the social mobilization:

[Begin Huepe recording] We PDC members, as mentioned by Gabriel Valdes in his speech the day before yesterday, have stimulated and supported all efforts aimed at reaching agreements at the social level, as well as staging the intense social mobilization activities that have to be carried out this year.

This is what the women, for example, have done. They have grouped people of different political trends to stage mobilizations. [end recording]

Claudio Huepe, vice chairman of the PDC, however, did not mention the Popular Democratic Movement, which, no matter what is said, is involved in all efforts in opposition to the government and favors unity in the mobilization through concrete agreements.

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CHILE

RADICAL, SOCIALIST PARTIES SUPPORT NEW COMMAND

PY160109 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Enrique Silva Cimma, the president of the Radical Party, has said that the formation of the National Command for Social Mobilization is a great opportunity for all social and political forces to unite their efforts.

Silva Cimma emphasized that the mobilization must be peaceful. Right after the National Command for Social Mobilization was formed, Silva Cimma explained the scope of the Command.

[Begin Silva Cimma recording] Unity is absolutely essential to enable everyone to join the command, to engage in social mobilization and civil disobedience peacefully and without violence. The Command was created because we have so many points of agreement and hope that it will be well-received by all social circles, and of course by all political parties that have agreed on the need for joint social mobilization. [end recording]

Carlos Briones, the leader of the Socialist Party, indicated that the Command will lead the way to the reconstruction of the social structure, which has been destroyed by the dictatorship.

[Begin Briones recording] We are calling on all social organizations because we want, through the National Command for Social Mobilization, to reconstruct the social structure that has been destroyed by the dictatorship in Chile and to seek the way to recover the lost democracy. This is basically the substance and scope of the declaration made by three parties. [end recording]

Asked about the conversations with the Popular Democratic Movement, Enrique Silva Cimma said: Our proposal to this movement has been explicit in the sense that unity is essential for the creation of a Command to carry out a peaceful social mobilization and civil disobedience. We hope that this Command will receive the greatest response from all social organizations and political parties which agree with this call.

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CHILE

JOURNALISTS SUPPORT JAILED COLLEAGUE

PY152352 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0003 GMT 15 Mar 86

[Text] Santiago, 14 Mar (EFE)--More than 100 Santiago journalists today marched to the Santiago Penitentiary to express support for their colleague, the publisher of an opposition magazine and a foreign correspondent.

Ignacio Gonzalez Camus, the president of the National Journalists Association, who led the march, explained that the demonstration staged by journalists sought to publicly express the National Journalists Association's support for professional reporter Nernando Paulsen, who has been indicted by the military courts and charged with offending the Carabineros corps.

Paulsen, who is the political editor of the magazine ANALISIS and the Chilean correspondent of TIME Magazine, has already been imprisoned for 2 weeks.

Leaders of political and social organizations also joined the march but when they arrived at the gates of the penitentiary, only the president of the National Journalists Association was allowed to enter.

Upon leaving the penitentiary, Gonzalez stated that "the Chilean journalists association is determined to participate in the social mobilization, especially in the struggle for democracy, and, in making this effort we are determined to run any risks."

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CHILE

BRIEFS

LIBERALS DEMAND EXPULSION--The Liberal Party yesterday demanded the "expulsion from the Democratic Alliance and from the National Accord of all groups that have no clear democratic definition." It added that the controversy between National Union and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] over PDC participation in the [1973] military uprising "seeks to divide the opposition and to strengthen the government." Claudio Cerdá, member of the Liberal Party Political Commission, stated that the people were shocked in recent days by media reports purporting to prove that the PDC participated in the overthrow of Chilean President Salvador Allende. It added that "the National Union Movement has acted as spokesman in this campaign." PDC leader Juan Claudio Reyes also stated that National Union leader Fernando Maturana "keeps up his campaign in support of the current government, in an effort to hinder the efforts that most Chileans are making to return as soon as possible to democracy." In reply to remarks made by Maturana regarding the "social mobilization," Reyes expressed in a public statement that the term adventurers, which Maturana uses against us, who have decided to fight this year with the maximum possible effort for a political solution to the current crisis. [sentence as published] [Text] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 7 Mar 86 p C3 PY] /7358

NATIONAL SECTORS' UNITY--Concepcion--Jose Ruiz Di Giorio, president of the oil workers federation and leader of the National Workers Command, CNT, has said here that the CNT is promoting the "unity of all national social sectors." Di Giorgio made this statement during a press conference that was also held by leaders of the PETROX union, which is a member of the oil workers federation. During the press conference Di Giorgio harshly criticized government plans for the handling of the national petroleum enterprise. He said that from 8 to 20 April, the CNT will hold a national consultative meeting that will be attended by all leaders of the grassroots organizations in the CNT. [By Patricio Gomez Couchot] [Text] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 7 Mar 86 p C3 PY] /7358

SOCIALIST PARTY DENIES LEAVING AD--Socialist Party leader Ricardo Lagos yesterday denied that his party has left the opposition Democratic Alliance [AD]. Lagos made this statement after attending an AD Executive Committee meeting at the office of Andres Zaldivar, former foreign minister during the Christian Democratic government. The meeting, held yesterday at noon, was attended by Radical Party President Enrique Silva Cimma and Republican Party Vice President Javier Diaz, in addition to Lagos and Valdes. Lagos said that the

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"Socialist Party is not withdrawing from the AD." He added that "we believe that as long as an overall agreement is not reached on how to implement a political dialogue in Chile, it is better to hold bilateral meetings with political parties." Asked whether the Socialist Party attitude is "blocking the AD," Lagos replied that "I would not say that, because the AD has made statements and because this afternoon it is participating in the women's march." [Text] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 12 Mar 86 p C3 PY] /7358

OPPOSITION LEADER RELEASED--The Seventh Chamber of the Appellate Court has ordered that former Justice Minister Manuel Sanhueza, chairman of the Constitutional Studies Group and of the Democratic Intransigence, be released on bail, thus confirming a resolution by Judge Marco Aurelio Perales. The Appellate Court passed the decision this morning on the case filed by the Interior Ministry against Sanhueza, based on an article published in the magazine ANALISIS and signed by Sanhueza. In this document, the Democratic Intransigence stated its position on the political situation in the country. Manuel Sanhueza's defense attorney announced that his client will be released at any moment. [Excerpts] [Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Mar 86 PY] /7358

POLITICAL INTERVENTION IN UNIONS SCORED--Most workers want labor union issues to be completely independent of political issues. This was stated by Labor Minister Alfonso Marques de la Plata when he was asked about rumors that the proscribed Communist and Socialist Parties, together with the Christian Democrats [PDC], allegedly will conduct labor union elections. [Begin Marques recording] I would deeply regret labor elections having political connotations, because I understand that this coalition includes Communist Party members, that is, it is a PDC-Communist-Socialist coalition. I think that the unions, the great majority of workers, want union issues to be completely independent of political issues. Therefore, it would be very regrettable if this should happen. [end recording] The minister made these comments at the end of a visit to the Polpaico cement factory in Cerro Blanco, Tilit district, 40 km north of Santiago. [Excerpt] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 86 PY] /7358

CARDINAL FRESNO BOOED BY DEMONSTRATORS--Santiago, 16 Mar (EFE)--Demonstrations were carried out against Juan Francisco Fresno, the Cardinal Archbishop of Santiago, by the inhabitants of the poorer sectors of Santiago when the prelate visited a working class neighborhood. With shouts and whistling, an undetermined number of demonstrators living in El Montijo neighborhood of the capital forced Cardinal Fresno to rapidly withdraw from the place flanked by four priests who helped to get him into a car. The demonstrators, carrying placards reading "what did you do when your brother was starving?", demanded that the Archbishop "give greater support to the cause of the poor." The prelate went to El Montijo to dedicate the new chapel of the parish of that heavily populated neighborhood in northern Santiago. During the ceremony the Cardinal was harassed by groups of people, who whistled at him and booed him as a sign of reproach. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1429 GMT 16 Mar 86 PY] /7358

7 April 1986

FORMER COMMUNIST CONGRESSMAN RELEASED--The Santiago Appellate Court this afternoon released on bail former communist congressman Alejandro Toro, who was indicted at the request of the government. Two other political leaders were also included in the case. This information was revealed by Toro's attorney, Juan (Padilla). The ruling, which was handed down by Judges Sergio Valenzuela, Jose Canovas, and Luis Correa, confirmed a previous ruling by trial Judge Marcos (de Liberinski). The bail for Alejandro Toro to leave the Capuchinos Penitentiary was set at 10,000 pesos. Meanwhile, trial Judge Marta (Osa) this afternoon ruled in favor of the release on bail--subject to approval by the Appellate Court of two leaders of the construction workers trade union indicted for allegedly offending Supreme Court justices. The people benefitting from this ruling are Sergio Troncoso and Reinaldo Alvarez. The ruling handed down by Judge Marta (Osa) is to be confirmed or overturned by the Appellate Court. [Excerpts] [Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 86 PY] /7358

IAPA DENOUNCES LAW PUBLICATIONS--The Inter-American Press Association [IAPA] has sent a telegram to the head of state, Captain General Augusto Pinochet, reasserting IAPA's opposition to the restrictions currently prevailing in Chile for publishing new publications. It is signed by IAPA President Edward (Hart). The telegram states that the IAPA board of directors, assembled in Salvador, Bahia State, Brazil, on 3-6 March, took note of this law, which requires previous authorization by the government. This law was used to prevent the establishment of the newspaper LA EPOCA. In addition, IAPA reiterates its protest over the arrest of journalists while they are performing their professional tasks and over the indictments filed by the regime of Gen Pinochet against several professional journalists. [Text] [Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Mar 86 PY] /7358

CSO: 3348/459

GRENADA

MBPM OFFICIAL AT HAVANA RALLY CASTIGATES U.S. 'MEDDLING'

FL161815 Bridgetown CANA in English 1614 GMT 16 Mar 86

[Text] Havana, 16 Mar (CANA)--A Grenada opposition party member, Don Rojas, has accused the United States of seeking to turn the English-speaking island and the rest of the eastern Caribbean into a reactionary bloc against Cuba and Nicaragua.

Rojas, who belongs to the leftist Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM), said Washington was trying to turn Grenadians into the most reactionary and neo-colonial force in the Caribbean.

He described U.S. President Ronald Reagan's February visit to Grenada as a second invasion of Grenada, and warned that no force would stop a united and determined people from fighting for independence.

Rojas, a former press secretary to slain Prime Minister Bishop, was speaking at a solidarity rally here on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the March 13 coup that brought Bishop to power.

The rally was sponsored by the Association of Caribbean People (ACP) residing in Cuba which groups mainly students.

Time and history are on the side of the patriotic and progressive people, Rojas said and added that despite the forthcoming difficulties, the final victory is secure.

After paying tribute to Bishop and his comrades, who were killed in a palace coup shortly before the U.S. invaded the island in 1983, Rojas called on Caribbean students not to repeat the errors of division and sectarianism some Grenadians made.

Closing the rally, a Cuban Institute of Friendship Among Peoples (ICAP) official reaffirmed Cuba's solidarity with the Grenadian people.

/9274
CSO: 3298/374

GRENADA

BEHAVIOR OF NNP MP'S SEEN AS THREAT TO DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 15 Feb 86 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] There is cause for much concern over the rumblings which are coming from the New National Party and the attitude and behaviour of some of their Parliamentarians.

If Grenada has never needed a vocal public opinion before, it is certainly needed now to tell these individualistic men that, if this country is to be saved for true democracy and protected from political charlatans, opportunists and pseudo-revolutionaries, they have got to seriously forge this chimerical unity about which they boast so much but which no more exists than the "Holy Grail."

We need to remind these men and women that we voted them into power, not so much because we BELIEVED in them (for none, save Prime Minister Blaize had a track record), as much as because we HOPED in them, since there was no other serious option open to us. We need to point out to them that their election to political office did not, in itself, endow them with political acumen and the wisdom of the ages, so they have no right or reason to come on with the know-it-all attitude that some of them display. We need to get it through their heads, somehow, that we, and history, will never forgive them if they squander the golden, God-given opportunity presented to us to put our house in order and set this country on a secure path of development.

On paper we have the highest proportion of well-educated men among all the Parliaments in the region and if they will be conscientious and dedicated and seek and take proper advice and be willing to learn, there is no reason why they should not deliver the goods. But what do we find?

We find dissension and disunity which are denied until it bursts into an ugly scene. We find the 'youngbloods' of the party in parliament being more critical in public than the opposition--instead of seeking remedies inside. We find men looking after their own constituencies without regard for proper procedure. We even find the spectacle of a booklet being published (which is a commendable report on the work of the government in

the first year)--but, although it includes information which must have been provided by other Ministers, it was signed by one Minister who cheapened the whole effort by printing on the cover "The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of Government." How ridiculous!

We have opined before, and we say again, that these men do not really understand Cabinet Government. Neither do the 'youngbloods' who seem to feel that they must know everything the Government is doing and in advance. In fact, they appear to believe that they should be consulted at every turn. They seem to want the "shared leadership" that brought us so much trouble in '83.

Of course, we are aware that the Prime Minister needs to make some adjustments in his style. What we recommend, however, is that he should take all his Parliamentarians and his Party Executive on a weekend retreat and hammer out their differences in a frank exchange of views (before the whole thing falls apart)--and after that, let the chips fall where they may.

/9317
CSO: 3298/370

GRENADA

UNIONS BACK DOWN ON MEETING, BUT PUSH WAGE DEMANDS

St Georges THE GRENADIAN VOICE in English 15 Feb 86 p 16

[Text] The three unions seeking a 30 percent increase in salaries for its members dating back to last year have dropped their ultimatum for a meeting with Government, but are standing firm on their claim for an increase in salaries and wages for the year 1985.

In response to Prime Minister Herbert Blaize's declaration that "no Government can run the affairs of a country on the basis of ultimatums" the unions decided to meet with government "at a convenient time" for both to avoid an impasse. The two negotiating teams were scheduled to meet on Friday.

Meantime, Basil Harford, President of the Public Workers Union, one of the three groups involved, told workers "you cannot play football on wet ground and not get your pants dirty."

Mr Harford was speaking at a meeting called by his union, together with the Technical and Allied Workers Union and the Grenada Union of Teachers to discuss the present situation. The meeting took place at the PWU Centre at Tanteen on Tuesday.

Harford made the comment as he was expressing his "slight" dissatisfaction with the turnout of about 100 members. The PWU leader also complained in his address that the present level of public workers wages--of less than \$6.000 per year on the average is much too low. He said that workers in the private sector are receiving much higher wages along with six months bonus at the end of the year. This, he said, is happening while unions representing public workers are being ignored. Harford referred to a recent survey of OECS countries which showed that workers in countries such as St Lucia, St Vincent and Dominica are receiving much higher salaries than Grenadians. The morale of public workers is very low, the union president said, and without an increase in salaries and benefits it could drop even further.

A government letter addressed "Dear Fellow Workers" was read. It stated that union members should support the government in its difficult endeavour to build the country since it does not have a "magic lamp" to create improvements overnight.

The union members present were given an opportunity to express their feelings on the current situation and most felt their organisations claims are justified.

The only thing government and the unions have agreed upon is for the latter to be part of a body set up to examine recommendations of the Organisation and Methods Survey of the civil service carried out by Peat, Marwick, Mitchell of Britain.

Prime Minister Herbert Blaize says "This should provide a sound basis on which negotiations, in respect of wage claims for 1986 can proceed constructively."

/9317
CSO: 3298/370

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION, INEFFICIENCY, NEPOTISM CITED

[Editorial Report] Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish on 8 January 1986 publishes a 600-word commentary by Alvaro Contreras Velez entitled "On the Eve of A New Democratic Experiment." The commentary states that the transition to democracy has improved the country's overseas image and that as a result "a bunch of money" will be arriving. The author feels that the country's economy will not improve unless it uproots its age-old vices, which are:

"1. The various forms of corruption, such as venality, extortion, smuggling, embezzlement and stealing money from taxpayers; 2. Confidential expenditures that plunder the treasury; 3. Nepotism, which insures that only a few families will enjoy the spoils of power; 4. Autocratic government intervention, which dampens the productive activities of private enterprise; 5. Domestic and foreign borrowing (already more than \$2.5 billion), which is mortgaging the nation's future; 6. The dead weight of state-run enterprises, which spend taxpayers' money to employ bureaucratic loafers and parasites; 7. Wasteful spending on white elephants and on new-rich luxuries that public officials are wont to secure for themselves through projects that benefit only them; 8. Higher inflation by printing more money that is worth less every day."

The author concludes by stating that the civilian government has two major tasks ahead of it: "The reconstruction of the national economy, which has been devastated by the worst crisis in Guatemala's history," and rebuilding the country's international reputation, "not just in financial terms because of the fall in the value of the quetzal...but also socially and politically, owing to the thousands of murders, disappearances, torture and other human rights violations of which recent governments have been accused."

8743
CSO: 3248/193

GUYANA

HOYTE COMMENTS ON FIRST 6 MONTHS IN CANA INTERVIEW

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Feb 86 p 25

[Text]

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Feb. 27, Cana

Guyana's President Desmond Hoyte has ended his first six months in office optimistic about revitalising the socialist republic's ailing economy.

In a wide-ranging interview with Cana, Hoyte said that increased foreign investment in the important mining sector, a deeper interest by Guyana's neighbours in establishing joint ventures to exploit the mineral-rich South American country's resources, and a lot of goodwill shown by the international community contributed to the optimism.

There was also a willingness by "various sections of the society" to help in economic regeneration, the former Prime Minister reported.

Hoyte, who for several years had been a member of President Forbes Burnham's cabinet, took over after Burnham died last August 6. The economy he presides over has long been in trouble, with inadequate returns from the major exports of sugar and bauxite contributing to a foreign exchange squeeze that has been reflected in scarcities of some consumer goods.

Hoyte told Cana the government was hoping to improve earnings from sugar and bauxite by getting the World Bank and the European Economic Community (EEC) to rehabilitate Guyana's bauxite plant — a move that would significantly improve production capacity — and by making additional products from sugar cane.

Hoyte also spoke about relations with religious groups in the aftermath of claims of victimisation by some churchmen; about food production problems; and plans for a deepening of relations with Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries as well as Latin American nations.

He said the government had good relations with most religious groups here. He told Cana too the government was prepared to be flexible in food import and other policies, scrapping guidelines if they were unworkable.

Following are excerpts from the interview.

On the possibility of an economic turnaround:

"Over the years we have had great experience in managing an economy in difficulties. We have had every kind of problem any country can experience in the context of a world where economic activity is contracting, where the world economy is not vibrant.

There are problems of shortages, foreign exchange problems, therefore, shortages of spares for industry and so on — shortage of some essential items. We have gained experience on how to manage in such a situation; so that our people have developed great ingenuity and are surviving in these difficult circumstances.

Now there are several favourable factors which lead me to believe that we can move this country and its economy forward. In the first place, there were the results of the elections (last December) which gave the party a mandate to administer the affairs of this country for another five years. In other words, the political issue has been settled.

We've got five years within which to take decisions and to adopt the measures that are necessary to turn our economy around. Now, secondly, over the years we have been doing a lot of work designed to stimulate economic activity.

For example, we have been developing several investment models which we hope would be attractive to Caricom entrepreneurs, businessmen and even extra-regional investors.

These models would call for joint ventures in the exploitation of Guyana's resources. We've got abundant resources.

At this time we don't have the capital and we don't have the technology that is needed to exploit these resources. We know that many business people in Caricom have the capital, have access to the technology. So the whole idea is for us to pool our resources that we have — they pooling their financial resources and managerial resources and skills and so on to develop enterprises for our mutual benefit.

We've gone a far way in refining those models ... Already we have had proposals and we've had enquiries from some Caricom business people.

We are hoping that at least we could have the example of one of these projects coming off the ground just to illustrate the possibilities inherent in this kind of cooperation.

Additionally, very quietly, without a lot of fanfare, people have been investing in Guyana. There is a lot of activity in the mining sector, particularly in gold, and all of the people who have come in to invest in gold and minerals have been expressing their enthusiasm on the basis of the exploratory work they have done and their analysis of meteorological data garnered.

I think that within another year or two we should be having significant activity in the mining sector.

A team led by Deputy Prime Minister Parris has left Guyana for London to hold a seminar with leading oil companies on our petroleum resources. That team after leaving London will go on to Houston, Texas to similar seminars. All of the major oil companies will be present at those seminars.

We will explain to them the potential which we have in hydrocarbons. In fact they already have the seismic and other data. They have brought these packages.

They have been studying them and it is on the basis of the studies they have done that we will be exposing to them the regime to make investment in the oil sector, the petroleum sector, attractive.

As you know we've already laid legislation in the Parliament to modernise our laws relating to oil exploration and exploitation."

On the guyana private sector:

"....Our businessmen, being sort of influenced by the reality of our economic situation, have come up with a number of very ingenious ways of coping.

As I said in my speech to the Parliament, they have come to the point that we have survived, but they could do more than that. I myself have been heartened by the number of proposals suggesting ways and means of doing this.

Many of them have already started to take new approaches to manufacturing, to development, and so on....

Now the government has been doing a number of things to encourage business activities and I do look forward to seeing some results."

On the mood in Guyana and the international community following his take-over:

"There is a mood of optimism among the (Guyanese) people. People seem to believe we have a good opportunity to move this nation forward. You will forgive me for repeating that phrase, it is a phrase that I have adopted, it's almost kind of a slogan if you like.

I have seen a lot of goodwill abroad. I have had a lot of expressions of support and there is an obvious willingness on the part of various sections of our society to try to do whatever lies in their power to help in this process of what I will call economic regeneration.

Not only have people been showing their willingness to do things, they have been doing it.

Private sector organisations have been doing a lot of things, showing a lot of initiative, making a lot of good proposals.

For the first time, we have had a pretty deep involvement of the business community, the private sector community, in the discussions, the formulation of budgetary measures. Of course, you have had the TUC (Trades Union Congress) and that has been traditional for some years now.

We've had businessmen working on specific proposals not for themselves, but for the economy as a whole and in support of government activities.

So I believe that people look at all these things and they believe that they themselves as members of a particular group or as individuals have a greater opportunity for involvement in terms of influencing decisions and also in terms of personal participation in doing things and having things done.

As I said to the many organisations that I have met, I would expect them to do things. We have got to get beyond the stage where people sit down and believe that the government is the universal godfather, you know, that we will bring all good things, will do everything, and (recognise) that there are many areas of public life impinging upon national development.

Where the non-governmental voluntary organisations were better equipped to manage, it is government's policy therefore that the non-governmental and voluntary organisations should undertake the responsibility to seek such governmental support as may be required or necessary....

The mood (of optimism) is there. I feel it is a good asset. I feel that the government must foster that mood to keep people enthusiastic and hopeful, and to do with them some practical things which will justify their belief that we can do much better in the long run."On relations with religious groups:

"In this country there is no such thing as the church. In many Caricom countries, in many other countries of the world, you usually have a dominant church and therefore you can properly speak of the church, but we have no such thing in Guyana."

We are a very plural society and we have many religions. We have Hindus, we have Muslims, we have Christians, we have some religions that cannot be classified as any of those groupings. We have the Brahma Kumaris, we have the Bahai, and in our country the Christians are a minority. That is not frequently understood even within Caricom.

It is difficult for people in Caricom to understand that Guyana is not a Christian country. It is a religious country, but not a Christian country.

It has many religions and the Christians are in the minority. And even in the Christian faith there are so many denominations. In the Christian faith the Anglicans and the Roman Catholic, let me call them the established churches, these are established in every particular sense but are in the minority.

The majority of Christians are deep down in the other churches, the Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians... then we get the indigenous churches which owe no allegiance to any outside religious body.

There are the Jordanites, the people in the spiritual councils... Really, there are large number of churches all over the country. Now if you stop to reflect, you'll find that the government had absolutely no problems with any Hindu organisation, it had absolutely no problem with any Muslim organisation.

In fact many of those organisations came to congratulate me and offer me their support. We have had no problems with any of these and with most of the Christian churches. In fact, the relationship with this government and the religious organisations, as a whole, has been extremely good, cordial and marked by respect. It is only on the third of this month that the Methodists invited me to have lunch with them during the period of their synod.

The Methodist leaders did take the opportunity to say what relations they had with the government and to offer their support as it were. In January, I think it was the 16th of January, an important Muslim organisation, the Islamic Missionaries Guild, had a luncheon in my honour at which hundreds of Muslims attended...

A group of prominent Catholics had a reception in honour of myself and the Prime Minister and at that reception they took the opportunity to discuss with us relations between the Roman Catholic Church and the government.

They were anxious that there should be good peaceful relations and were keen on promoting dialogue and doing everything in their power to ensure good relations...

That was a most cordial meeting of people who were kindly disposed... and they took the time off to hold a reception in honour of myself and my colleagues, the Prime Minister.

What was interesting about that was that the person who chaired what I may call the second part of the proceeding, the first part was the social part, the second part was the discussion part, was the brother of the Roman Catholic Bishop, that is, Mr. Marcellus Fielden Singh, who also happened to be the leader of one of the minority parties, the United Force.

But we weren't there as politicians, we were there as Guyanese who were interested in the welfare and well-being of this country. So when one takes all of those things into consideration, it is a little difficult to understand any allegation that there is antagonism between the church and the government.

There have been problems, not with the Roman Catholic Church, but with some individuals in the hierarchy and we have to administer a state and we have to consider the overall interest and security of the state. And there is nobody who is superior to our law, who is above our law, and above the constitution.

7 April 1986

JAMAICA

PNP MOUNTS PROTEST VIGIL IN OPPOSITION TO SEAGA POLICIES

Party's Demands

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 Feb 86 pp 1, 3

[Text]

A SEVEN-POINT DEMAND is to be made on the Government to ensure "growth and real development" with the use of some \$715 million in savings from the decline of oil prices on the world market, President of the People's National Party Mr. Michael Manley said last night.

Mr. Manley said the demands would be made on the Prime Minister at Jamaica House on Monday, March 10 following an all-night vigil at National Heroes Park the day before.

Mr. Manley made this announcement at the PNP's People's Forum at Oceana Hotel last night. He said the party would demand:

- that Government give education priority and abandon its present direction in regard to tertiary education and the teachers' salary issue;

- that Public Health services, including the delivery of preventative health care, the reopening of closed hospital wards and health centres, as well as the re-employment of community health aides be restored;

- that electricity rates must be lowered for the productive sectors, especially those which earn vital foreign exchange for the country, and for those of the people who are in the lowest income groups;

- that water rates must be reduced for the productive sectors, especially agriculture and for the lowest income groups;

- that interest rates must be lowered for the productive sectors, especially agriculture, tourism, manufacturing and construction. Cement price must be decreased;

- that the physical infrastructure of the Railway, feeder roads, and port facilities for the export of bananas must be improved;

- that the cost of cooking gas and kerosene oil must be reduced.

Mr. Manley said that the Party was going to return to a location (National Heroes Park) "from which the people spoke with power and got the exchange rate fixed." He was referring to the Party's vigil November last when thousands marched on the Bank of Jamaica.

He declared to tumultuous cheers from the packed hotel ballroom that his Party was "totally opposed" to what he said was Mr. Seaga's move to turn back the process of free education for the poor.

"We're going to fight against it, we are going to demonstrate against it," Mr. Manley said. He pledged that if Mr. Seaga turned back social programmes, a PNP Government was going to reverse the process when "God and the people" returned the Party to power.

Dealing with oil prices, he said that the Stabilisation Fund could become the "biggest pork barrel" ever known in the country's history. Mr. Manley called on the Government to take immediate steps to put a limit on what went into the Fund in view of the windfall on oil price; and channel the remainder in the Consolidated Fund so that the money could be the subject of public scrutiny.

He suggested too that there should be collaboration between the Government and the bauxite industry to search for new markets as a result of

the new opportunities opened up due to the drop in the cost of oil.

Earlier, the PNP's spokesman on Finance, Mr. Seymour Mullings told the audience that the price of oil had fallen nearly 50 per cent, which would result in an estimated savings of between US\$120 million and US\$130 million or between J\$660 million and J\$715 million.

"The money belongs to the consumer, to every man who buys a gallon of gas, to every housewife who buys a cylinder of cooking gas, to every man and woman who has to pay electricity bill, to every man and woman who has to pay water rates," Mr. Mullings said.

He added that the PNP Government left \$31 million in the Stabilisation Fund in 1980 but the present Government used it up. "Until this day, they have never told Jamaica how they spent it. The oil price reduction will result in a larger sum of money going into the Stabilisation Fund. I call on Seaga to tell Jamaica how this money is going to be accounted for."

Mr. Manley said that if the Government implemented the proposals they would make a great contribution to the economy and people. He would invite those on the vigil to march with him to Jamaica House on Monday morning March 10 at 8 a.m. to present the demands to the Prime Minister. If they were not allowed in, he said, he hoped that the Security Forces would assist in delivering the demands.

March on Seaga's Residence

FL111630 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] In Kingston, Jamaica, tens of thousands of demonstrators led by former Prime Minister Michael Manley marched on Prime Minister Edward Seaga's residence yesterday to demand changes in Jamaica's economic policies. Police estimated 60,000 people assembled Sunday night for an all-night vigil sponsored by Mr Manley's People's National Party at Halfway Tree Square, which separates Kingston's residential and business districts.

Yesterday morning, the crowd marched to Jamaica House, Mr Seaga's official residence. Several hours later, police fired tear gas to disperse close to 1,000 students who were demonstrating against the Jamaican Government's proposal to raise tuitions at colleges and universities.

And, in yet another protest yesterday, approximately 400 junior doctors continued to slow down. The doctors are demanding 12.5 percent wage increases.

/9274
CSO: 3298/376

MEXICO

CFE LACKS RESOURCES TO MEET FUTURE EXPANSION OF ECONOMY

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish No 486, 24 Feb 86 pp 11-13

[Text] A possible economic growth (however minimal it might be) could actually generate a disaster. The electrical industry, virtually at a standstill, lacks resources for dealing with any rise in the demand for power.

As someone has claimed, the country is in a half light; and it could be left in the dark.

The situation is a result of the cancellation or deferment (terms used by labor and management, respectively) of the investments in the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE).

With different and even opposing views, the deputy director of CFE, Juan Eibenschutz Hartmann, and the head of SUTERM [Sole Trade Union of Electrical Workers of the Mexican Republic], Leonardo Rodriguez Alcaine, confirm in varying ways what the electrical industry's statistics themselves indicate: It is stagnant and, if it continues thusly, there will be risks even of not being able to deal with plans for a hypothetical economic reactivation.

Without citing figures, Juan Eibenschutz Hartmann explains that, as a result of the reduction in income due to the decline in oil prices, the company's programs "will be curtailed and adjusted. We are involved in a rescheduling or deferment of projects, which is not the same thing as a reduction in budget."

The official makes a distinction: "At least up until now, they have not touched the budget. The budget authorities have told us to spend less than we had planned during the first 3 months; I suppose it was for the purpose of solving cash problems rather than saving."

Nevertheless, the problem does not appear to be so simple, because the rescheduling (evidence that there are no funds) is serious. Eibenschutz admits this subsequently: "If the demand continues to increase and the company's construction programs are curtailed, there will not be a sufficient supply or capacity to meet that demand, 3, 4, or 5 years hence. That is the risk that is being run." But he returns to the mild tone:

"When they begin to readjust the programs (it has actually been done already), the risk being run is not immediate. At the present time, we have sufficient capacity for providing service with a reasonable margin. The installed capacity is 20,000 megawatts."

On the other hand, Leonardo Rodriguez Alcaine, head of the Sole Union of Electrical Workers, does have statistics. He states them with assurance, backs them when addressing anyone, and claims: "CFE cancelled its investment budget, which amounts to about 600 billion pesos this year. There is only money for current spending, in other words, salaries, benefits, fuel, spare parts, etc., that will allow for the minimal operation of the company. There will be delays of up to 3 years in the construction of works projects; and hence there will be difficulties in rendering proper service during the coming dry season. This year, several plants will embark upon maintenance. In 1987, there will be blackouts. The expansion projects have been halted. To date, there have been about 50,000 workers laid off, who were trusted and belonged to the union. It is impossible for the government to make greater cuts in spending, because we no longer have people working on projects. Only the essential personnel are being kept."

Rodriguez Alcaine believes that the risks are immediate. "Under the current conditions, there will not be sufficient capacity to meet the demand, if the economy grows. But not only that; rather, there will be an energy shortage even without economic growth."

"The budget cuts have not occurred only in 1986, but during the past 3 years. We are not in a position to solve the problems stemming from the power supply. There is a lag with respect to demand. More plants, more substations, more networks, and more lines are needed in order to be able to provide service. We are not growing sharply as during the past 6 years, but we are still doing so, although at lesser rates. We Mexicans cannot stop eating, or clothing and transporting ourselves. That is the problem: not being able to meet the normal energy requirements even if there is no economic development."

Juan Eibenschutz laughs, and doesn't believe it; because if Rodriguez Alcaine's assertion is true, it would mean the end for the company. He takes a puff on his cigar:

"If the investments end, then we shall have to stop everything; and this is difficult too. It would be something like the failure of the company. The construction of a hydroelectric plant or a thermoelectric plant is like the building of a house. You need a sum of money, make your budget, and calculate that it will be finished in a year. Suddenly, you are left without a nickel for the project; you return materials that you have already purchased, or you leave them there to go to waste. What are you going to tell the workers, when they find out that the job is over, because you were left without a nickel?"

He becomes serious, and puts down his cigar: "A firm such as CFE cannot be left without money, unless the country is at an end. That is unthinkable."

The best judge in this controversy is CFE's own technical data. With the latter, one can discern a paradox: If it had not been for the country's economic recession, the electric power supply would already have become critical.

The official forecasts indicated that the electric power would have an annual growth rate of 9.6 percent for 10 years; so, for 1986, a consumption of 13,150 megawatts was predicted. At present, the consumption is 11,715 megawatts, and the growth stands between 7 and 8 percent. If the prediction had been fulfilled, it would not have had the capacity to meet the demand.

What happened was that the economic growth, reflected in the GDP (gross domestic product), with its ups and downs and everything, has tended to decline and become stagnant. During 1981, the GDP was 7.9 percent; in 1982, -0.5 percent; and in 1983, -5.3 percent. In 1984 and 1985, the GDP recovered, and was 3.5 and 4.1 percent; but in 1986 a decline to -1.5 percent is anticipated.

The annual growth rate for electric power moved from 9.6 to 4 percent; and, this year, it is estimated at 6 percent.

The calculation of the annual growth for electric power (an average of 6 percent during the next 10 years) has been made on the basis of the development of the country's different regions, the historical evolution of consumption, and the requirements of the major industries and their projects. But there is one variable that has the last word: the government's economic policy. However, as often occurs, the predictions for the 6-year period may not be borne out.

In other words, despite the intention of a 6 percent growth in electric production, the areas with the largest demand in the republic (the south, which basically includes the Cancun tourist complex, and the north, including the Monterrey industrial zones and the entire border strip) have shown 8 percent growth rates in demand.

CFE's vulnerability stems from this point, despite the fact that it is benefited by the economic crisis. The parastate entity's industrial capacity lies between 18,000 and 20,000 megawatts, and it is the sum of the power of all the country's generating units. But, according to CFE's weekly executive report 5-96, the real capacity is 11,800 megawatts; and this is the result of subtracting from the total the reserve supply for emergency cases and the maintenance units under repair.

This same report indicates that during 1985 the demand was 11,715 megawatts; which, when compared with the real capacity, shows only a slight difference of 65 megawatts. Therefore, if there is a little growth in the economy, or if the demand is maintained, especially in industry, the electrical service could be at risk. The technical recommendations indicate that the real capacity should stand at 14,000 megawatts, at the height of an economic crisis. In other words, there should be a difference of 2,285 megawatts from the demand, and not one of 65.

The reason for the low capacity is due to the fact that there are many units out of service, for which it has been impossible to provide maintenance, owing to the lack of spare parts, most of which are imported.

The 65 megawatts will be depleted within a short time. The government is attempting to avoid this by restricting the market, which could grow as a result of the installation of assembly plants in the northern part of the country, the tourist industry and, primarily, heavy industry. The industrial plant is not totally occupied; that is to say, although new projects and industrial investments may be curtailed, if the idle capacity is occupied, a greater demand for energy will be generated. In view of this situation, the government could refuse to supply power, or else sacrifice another type of user (subdivisions and "colonias" [urban communities]), as occurred during 1980.

But during this time of economic upheaval, it has already been decided to terminate major projects in order to ensure the supply in future years. The future is being sacrificed to solve problems involving a shortage of resources: When the demand grows, there will be no capacity for meeting it.

According to the new dates for commercial operation in CFE's program of generating units, 23 plants have postponed their conclusion for a year, with the hope that, in the future, they will have a budget for continuing. Included among these are the Tejamaniles and Cerro Prieto IV (with three units) geothermal power plants; the Agua Prieta (with three units) hydroelectric power plant; the Comedero hydroelectric power plant (three units); the Aguamilpa hydroelectric power plant (with six units); and the Rosaritos, Topolobampo (three units) and Meoqui (three units) steam plants. These plants will be completed between 1988 and 1993.

The future of the projects that were intended to open this year is uncertain. At the outset, there have already been delays of up to a year and a half. Some of them are: the El Caracol hydroelectric powerplants, the Cerro Prieto II geothermal plant, the Ciudad Juarez and San Luis Potosi thermoelectric power plants, and the one with a combined cycle, El Sauz. But there are others which are even more delayed: the Penitas, Bacurato, and Amistad hydroelectric power plants; the Cerro Prieto II geothermal plant; the Libertad Manzanillo I and II, Agua Prieta II, and U-3 thermoelectric plants; and those with a combined cycle, Huinala and Tula, which are steam-powered.

Special mention should be made of the Laguna Verde nuclear electric plant (it will supply 4 percent of the total energy in the country), the lags and stoppages in which are very well known.

Waste and Deficit

CFE's deputy director, Juan Eibenschutz, claims that in Mexico electricity is used inefficiently in comparison with other countries. "We consume far more energy than the European countries do, and the same as the United States. We

waste it. This is explained by the fact that, for several years, the country's development has been based on cheap energy sources. We must save energy."

In his opinion, there is no shortage in the power supply. The degree of electrification is reasonably high, because towns with over 2,5000 inhabitants have this service. Nevertheless, there are 15 million inhabitants who have no electric light because they are located far from the centers with the electrical systems. It takes time to build facilities.

Eibenschutz does not think that there is any inefficiency in the parastate company. He admits that, in fact, the company's liabilities (debts) far exceed what the company is worth (assets). "From the business standpoint, the financial situation and the economic administration are very poor. But we are doing things reasonably well: The average costs of the service are at limits comparable to those of other countries, and the price-cost ratio stands at about 70 percent. In other words, it costs CFE 30 percent more to produce power than the sales price. Of course, the subsidy is 30 percent."

He says that there has currently been a change in the company's policy, and an attempt is being made to have the prices reflect the costs, "but this will not be achieved overnight."

He claims that, because of the policy on subsidies, the company's finances have been distorted. It accumulated a considerable debt amounting to 4 billion pesos. Therefore, it needs subsidies. "Actually, the economic situation is not a problem, because the government views the company as a public service, and not as a profit."

The subsidies will continue. "I don't see how they could be eliminated, thereby making the company more efficient. If the companies reflect the costs, and if there were a magic way of eliminating the debt, the sector would become efficient again in business terms, but we shall continue operating more or less the same. In fact, the economy is harmed when the real costs are not paid, but in a country such as ours, it is impossible to stop subsidizing certain sectors and services."

[Question] Isn't the use of subsidies unfair? Aren't the large industrialists benefited, and those with less means harmed?

He explains that producing 1 kilowatt hour for the normal consumer is more expensive than for the industrialist. There are more technical complications in carrying power to residences than to industry. The power is sold to the consumers retail (less than 50 kilowatts), and to the industrialists wholesale (23,000 volts). It is sold to the normal consumer for 10 pesos per kilowatt, and costs 40 pesos; whereas the industrialist pays 5 pesos, because that is its exact worth. The industrialists are not subsidized, and the consumers are.

"That mistaken notion that people have about the unfair use of subsidies is politically appealing. Anyone who wants to distort reality with the intention of causing trouble can take an invoice from Sheet Metal and Plate, for example,

and compare it with that of a gentleman living in the rural area. Divide what the company is paying by what the poor devil on top of the hill is paying, and you have an enormous difference. So, it's easy to say that the government is giving away electricity to that wretched company and selling it to the poor devil as if it were gold; without regard for the fact that one is paying what the electricity costs and the other is being subsidized."

Eibenschutz cites other paradoxes. He claims that CFE is operating in the black, because the subsidies are handled as such, while the company maintains cost levels comparable to those of other countries, and its price-cost ratio is acceptable. He maintains that the debt has not paralyzed the company, because the outlays are distributed as a third for running expenses, another for investment and still another for the debt. Furthermore, since it is not a private company, it actually has no capital, and does not have to pay dividends. In any event, the debt that it owes to the government is the capital, and the interest is equivalent to the earnings generated by that capital.

He says that there is no hurry to level prices with costs, but that measures have been adopted: a 51 percent increase in January, plus another one that is equivalent to 3.5 percent per month. Moreover, through the program to assume liabilities, the government will cover 10 percent of CFE's debt, about 360 billion pesos, in 3 years.

[Question] Based on the public service, does it sound logical to raise rates and, at the same time, exempt the company from its debt? Why not ease the burden on the users?

[Answer] It's inevitable. The company contracted a debt to back its development, and it is very large. That doesn't mean that it is not viable or that it is inefficient. In fact, the company's problems stem from its public finances. We have been told that the spending is to be rescheduled. This is not a matter for CEF, rather, for the all-encompassing secretariats: planning and finance.

Well, despite the fact that the economic stagnation indicates that it will last several years, the electricity supply will be insufficient, and the lack of resources has become chronic, the leader of the electrical workers, Leonardo Rodriguez Alcaine evinces an optimistic smile:

"The shortage cannot be permanent. A country cannot remain static for long." And he tempers the concerns in his manner: "We must feed our fellow countrymen, and we are engaged in that, in seeing what we should do. But we do intend to take food to the people of Mexico."

2909
CSO: 3248/275

MEXICO

SALINAS DE GORTARI AFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO AUSTERITY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Feb 86 pp 1-A, 11-A, 30-A

[Excerpt] Yesterday, planning and budget secretary Carlos Salinas de Gortari cautioned that the renegotiation of the debt does not mean the abandonment of austerity in public spending, and that Mexico is applying the weight of the moral authority that its responsible behavior has lent it to contribute to the solution of the world's economic problems.

Participating in the 10th session on consensus and analysis of construction trends, organized by the Housing Construction Promotion Center, A.C., at a hotel in the capital, the official also noted that the major progress that has taken place during the past 3 years in the realm of coping with current situations and structural change cannot be sidetracked nor abandoned.

Commenting on President Miguel de la Madrid's message to the people, delivered last Friday, Salinas de Gortari said that the present circumstances must not cause the nation to come to a halt, and gave assurance that we shall continue to do our part, "which we must do; but we are living in a deeply interdependent world in which the sacrifice of one people or one society does not suffice for making progress if, at the same time, there is no recognition of shared international responsibility in the complex economic matters which are affecting all nations today."

2909
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MEXICO

COPARMEX COUNSELOR URGES DEBT SERVICING, OIL PRICE LINKAGE

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Feb 86 STATES section p 1

[Text] Tijuana, Baja California Norte, 24 February--The counselor of the Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic (COPARMEX), Vitelio Lanz Mora, declared that, if the decline in oil prices continues, there should also be a reduction in the interest paid by Mexico for the foreign debt service.

Should the same policy for paying our international financial commitments continue, on the same terms, despite the decline in the price of hydrocarbons, "it would mean continuing with the same mistake."

He added: "The budget that Mexican Petroleum had would mean turning our backs on the problems, instead of facing them."

The leader of the oil sector expressed the view that it was possible, with the drop in hydrocarbon prices, that the carburetants sold in Mexico would undergo an increase, to withstand the decline in foreign exchange derived from exports.

He commented that the budget which Mexican Petroleum had scheduled to procure was 60 percent, with the rest obtained from internal transactions; but, with the decline in sales abroad, this might vary drastically.

PEMEX will necessarily have to raise its internal earnings, he went on to say, and will only achieve this through an increase in the price of gasolines and derivatives on the national market.

Lanz Mora maintained that, because of this, there will be a strong inflationary spiral; because it has been proven on various occasions that an increase in fuel prices causes an escalation of price hikes for other goods and services.

Therefore, he noted, in view of the international and national oil crises, only two courses of action are left: changes of a populist type, and radical ones. The former would only continue the economic problems; and the others could surmount the current ills.

2909
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MEXICO

BRIEFS

PSUM AT JAPANESE COMMUNIST CONGRESS--During the second half of November, the Japanese Communist Party held its 17th congress and attending, as representative of PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] was Ivan Garcia Solis, member of the Central Committee and the Political Commission, as well as secretary general of PSUM in the Federal District. [Excerpt] [Mexico City ASI ES in Spanish No 163 20 Dec 85 p 19] 2909

CENTRAL AMERICAN DEPORTATION FIGURES--Tapachula, Chiapas, 21 January--Fernando Perez Dominguez, director of immigration services in the state, announced that, every day, over 200 undocumented Central Americans are being deported to their countries of origin. The immigration official explained that the undocumented persons have only local permits with which they are able to reach Tapachula. He added that the investigations of the Central Americans attempting to invade Mexico illegally are conducted by agents from that department and the municipal police. Most of the illegal individuals are caught at the checkpoint stations in the municipalities of Arriaga, Juchitan, and Oaxaca. Perez Dominguez also commented on the corruption in the department: "Those who take advantage of their job to commit unlawful acts, or who are caught in acts of extortion, or making improper use of their employment, will be dismissed." He concluded by saying: "Some cases have already been turned over to the deputy agents in Comitan, Talisman, Union Juarez, and Ciudad Hidalgo." Campeche, Camp., 21 January--The head of the Mexican Commission on Refugee Assistance in this state, Laura Carrera, announced that, next week, 10 Guatemalan refugee families would be repatriated at their own request; she claimed that this was not associated with the change in the neighboring country's cabinet. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jan 86 STATES section pp 1, 4] 2909

U.S.-BOUND CENTRAL AMERICANS DEPORTED--Tapachula, Chiapas, 27 January--Over 50 undocumented Central Americans were deported upon being intercepted at the border checkpoint station in Talisman by agents from the Mexican Immigration Service, according to reports from the agent of the latter department, Fernando Perez Dominguez. He remarked that the capture took place after they had crossed the Suchiate River bordering Guatemala. They were later transferred to the municipal jail. Involved were two Hondurans, 21 Salvadorans, and 31 Guatemalans, who were attempting to enter the country illegally in order to head for the United States subsequently, for the purpose of seeking job opportunities, as Perez Dominguez noted. He said that another checkpoint station was set up

in the municipality of Arriaga, where the shift in direction is made to the state capital or to reach Oaxacan territory; and, for this reason, it was decided to reinforce the checkpoint with additional forces, who are regularly capturing between 80 and 108 undocumented persons. The chief of immigration services added that over 1,000 Central Americans have been caught, doubling the efficiency of the surveillance; because during 1985 the monthly average number of undocumented persons captured was 580. [Excerpt] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Jan 86 STATES section pp 1, 4] 2909

CSO: 3248/223

NICARAGUA

DISILLUSION WITH SANDINISTAS GROWS IN SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 15 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by C.G., datelined Bonn, 14 February: "Wischnewski now Skeptical About 'Sandinist Democracy'; 'Socialist International' Visits Latin America; Against Military Actions"]

[Text] The Socialist International (SI) seems to change its opinion about Nicaragua. After a 12-day trip through Central America, SPD foreign policy specialist Wischnewski expressed worry in Bonn on Friday about the development within the party of the Sandinists. Wischnewski reported that all members of the SI group to which he had belonged were of the same opinion. "The situation in Central America continues to be extremely dangerous." Wischnewski compared the present situation in Nicaragua with that of a year ago; the SPD politician had been in the country in January 1985. Since then the economic situation has decisively worsened. The U.S. boycott shows effects. However, the military situation has improved in favor of the Sandinists. Most "Contras"--who offer resistance to the regime--are outside the country.

In Wischnewski's opinion, Nicaragua's domestic condition is characterized by a "significant worsening." "There is no positive development in the direction of democracy." According to Wischnewski's information, all opposition parties raise serious complaints against the Sandinists. In contrast to 1985, this also applies to the opposition parties which formerly had cooperated with the Sandinists in parliament. Wischnewski was "deeply moved" by their descriptions. Since 1985 the lines of communications between the Sandinist leadership and the Church have also broken down. A change as compared to January 1985 is noted by Wischnewski in the fact that the Sandinists are less worried about their international reputation. Nevertheless the SI group conducted a "frank discussion" with its Sandinist partners in the talks. Anyhow Wischnewski reported of a promise by them to resume the talks with the Church. The SI delegation concluded from the discussions in Managua that the promises of the Sandinists could "not suffice for an internal reconciliation." Wischnewski also mentioned the criticism by SPD Bundestag deputy Klose and by Amnesty International of the violations of human rights in Nicaragua. Wischnewski spoke of "short-term detentions to put people under pressure." Things like that must be condemned. "I would consider myself dishonest if I failed to repeat my impressions as they are." But Wischnewski placed emphasis on the account that the worst violations of human rights are committed not by the Sandinists but by the "Contras."

Nicaragua cannot be classified as a communist country, Wischnewski said. "There are opposition parties whose activity is, however, considerably restricted; there is an opposition press and a strong position of the Church."

Wischnewski's biggest worry was connected with the path of the Sandinist party: "Its structures point in a direction which is not democratic." This is reflected in dealing especially with those opposition forces who are represented in the parliament and who have now joined the chorus of those outside the parliament and those beyond the borders. But thus far nothing has an "irreversible effect," Wischnewski said. All of the SI is in favor of stronger support of the Contadora peace plans by the European Community. There must be a "Latin American solution." The SPD favors pluralist democracy in all countries of Central America, is opposed to military actions, also to any support of groups which want to act by force against constitutional orders. In Nicaragua the conditions for a "dialogue" must be created whose objective must be reconciliation. But the choice of the partners in the talks must be decided in Managua.

The SI group also held talks in Washington. According to Wischnewski's description, agreement was reached there on the assessment of a necessary reconciliation of the fighting groups in Nicaragua while there was no agreement in the question of support of the "Contras" by the United States. The SI group wants to send a report on its exploratory talks in Venezuela, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Mexico and on its talks with eight Latin American foreign ministers to the U.S. Congress. It also wants to report on the SI congress in Lima in June.

12356
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PERU

ARMY COMMANDER ON SUBVERSION, HUMAN RIGHTS, OTHER ISSUES

Lima CARETAS in Spanish 10 Feb 86 pp 26, 27, 28, 46

[Interview with Gen Guillermo Monzon Arrunategui, Army commander and president of the Joint Command, by Jose Gonzalez M.--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] In a particularly violent and hectic week, Commanding General of the Army and President of the Joint Command Army Gen Guillermo Monzon Arrunategui granted the following interview to CARETAS. It is the first he has granted to any of the printed media and his statements touch on points ranging from the counterinsurgency struggle to human rights, the petroleum contacts and the Army position on disarming.

[Gonzalez] The human rights issue has been one of the main problems that the Armed Forces has had to face in the past few years. Either directly or indirectly, the political-military heads of the emergency zone have been replaced in the past 2 years because of matters connected with human rights. What has the Army done in this regard after Accomarca and the return of the "penitents of Lloshegu?"

[Monzon Arrunategui] It is always difficult to assess what the Army did in the past because, as I told you, the men in charge of fighting subversion try to persuade terrorists to end their struggle and return to their normal lives. However, if the terrorists do not give up their plans and insist on waging an armed struggle, then the only alternative is confrontation. When there is a confrontation, the human rights issue is often used to criticize the Armed Forces. Frequently this criticism is from the viewpoint of the subversive movement and serves to support, although not always, the actions of subversive groups. I believe considerable progress has been made, because the townspeople have approved the behavior of the forces of order in general and of the Army in particular. After all, the Army has been in closer contact with the people. They understand the Army's duties and they cooperate. Moreover, some towns have asked that military garrisons be established in several areas for protection and to help solve some of the towns' problems.

[Gonzalez] Early this week, a local newspaper reported a massacre tacitly implicating the Army. The newspaper said that 3,000 people died and that helicopter raids were staged. The Joint Command replied by issuing a communiqué that flatly denied the massacre. What can you tell us about that?

[Monzon Arrunategui] I can tell you what the communique stated. Moreover, I can show you a document with remarks by the authorities of the area, who denied the massacre. Eleven peasant leaders of the area supported the statement by Cesar Bazan Quintanilla, the justice of the peace in Incahuasi. We also have a statement by Agustin Tello Panava, a Lucmahuico resident. These people said that the forces of order have never engaged in any massacre and that terrorists had been detected in Chapi and Lucmahuico.

[Gonzalez] In the past, Army members have been charged with human rights violations. Even though denied at the beginning, the charges later turned out to be true. This has fostered distrust in the military courts. Many people maintain that there are frictions between the civilian and the military courts, and wonder what is happening to the military courts?

[Monzon Arrunategui] The armed subversive struggle never comes alone. It is always coupled with a great display of information, which has psychological effects. We should not fail to recall that one of the objectives of the subversive movement is to drive wedges between the people and the authorities and to destroy the people's confidence in the institutions to facilitate the subversive struggle.

The military courts have their own procedures, which are properly applied in keeping with the existing regulations and resolutions.

[Gonzalez] It has been said that a new strategy has been adopted in the fight against subversion....

[Monzon Arrunategui] We are always analyzing the situation. We do not wait until the end of any specific period of time to review our information; we watch what is happening every day, and when the situation changes we act accordingly. Therefore, ours is a changing strategy, which depends on how the situation develops. This does not mean that we wait until something happens to react accordingly; we are not on the defensive. We analyze the situation and make our projections. Thus, we know in advance what might happen.

[Gonzalez] In his book "La Lucha Contra la Insurgencia" (The Fight Against Insurgency), David Galula points out that "victory can be achieved not by destroying the insurgents, but by isolating them from the people." You were in emergency zone No 5 last week. Taking Galula's views into account, what is the Army doing in Ayacucho and Huancavelica, in terms of antiterrorist actions?

[Monzon Arrunategui] Subversion is a multifaceted process. We should consider the propaganda that promotes subversion and that seeks to win the people's support. There is also the indoctrination, the efforts to awaken the people's awareness, and the intimidating terrorist attacks to force those who are still undecided to join subversion. Finally, there are the armed groups. We have made considerable progress regarding the control of subversive propaganda, terrorist attacks, and armed groups. The situation in the cities, Ayacucho in particular, has returned to normal.

Not only have we tried to eliminate the terrorists, we have tried to win the support of the people, who should properly assess their needs, which subversion has disregarded. However, if recalcitrant armed groups continue to attack the towns, it will be necessary to confront them and neutralize them.

[Gonzalez] During your visit to emergency zone No 5 you said that "subversion has not yet disappeared." The possibility of lifting the state of emergency has been recently mentioned....

[Monzon Arrunategui] We have made significant advances in the countersubversive struggle and we have met our objective in extensive areas. Yet, subversive actions continue as isolated armed operations. The process of indoctrination persists in the schools, and those who complete the training period can then engage in the armed struggle. For reasons such as this, we have decided that it is not yet time to lift the state of emergency.

[Gonzalez] Is the Shining Path under control militarily?

[Monzon Arrunategui] We have extensive areas in the emergency zone under control by the Forces of Order. The presence of Shining Path there is non-existent or minimal.

[Gonzalez] A few days ago, President Alan Garcia denounced the existence of "a new violence that is quite professional and mysterious." Does the Army share this opinion?

[Monzon Arrunategui] The Army cannot criticize the ideas and positions of the citizens, even less those of the President of the Republic and supreme commander of the Armed Forces. I believe that any Peruvian citizen would believe the President's words within the current situation.

[Gonzalez] A chain of military governments was replaced by a government elected by the people, which was in turn replaced by the current democratic government. How can you describe the current relations between the Armed Forces and President Garcia's administration?

[Monzon Arrunategui] I believe that it is easy to see that relations are normal, and good for the country's institutional life. These relations are maintained within the constitutional framework. There is mutual respect because there is respect for the law. The Armed Forces and the government have a good relationship and discuss the important questions.

[Gonzalez] There has been much speculation about the opinion of the Armed Forces Joint Command in the case of the oil contracts. Questions have been raised about Armed Forces participation in the technical aspects of the contracts. Or were they only involved in aspects of national defense?

[Monzon Arrunategui] The current law that calls upon the Armed Forces to give their opinion does not specify what kind of opinion. It simply says that a number of institutions, the Armed Forces among them, "...will give their favorable opinion." It says nothing about what the opinion should concern. Since the law does not establish limitations, it can be understood that the opinion can be general, or restricted to national defense. We complied with the law

by submitting a document containing our views to the pertinent agency, and waited for the results of the process that the contracts must follow.

[Gonzalez] But there are those who speculate that the Armed Forces have viewed the contract in very harsh terms and this has not been officially denied.

[Monzon Arrunategui] I can answer you from two viewpoints: Our foreign relations are well known by all, in that I believe there is a dynamic policy of rapprochement and understanding with other countries. We have a series of actions in different fields with the ultimate objective of identifying ourselves with our neighboring countries and those of the subregion; and the military sector, in which our armies [within the region] maintain good relations and undertake joint programs to understand better our activities, exchange information and avoid problems.

[Gonzalez] The Peruvian and Chilean military chiefs are meeting for the first time in Lima in May to discuss disarmament proposals. Two weeks ago the armed forces commanders met at the Foreign Ministry with Foreign Ministry officials to discuss the guidelines of the Peruvian proposals. What are you evaluating? Are you proposing a freeze on the purchase of arms or a limitation on the purchase of arms? What are the parameters to achieve disarmament taking into account that Chile has a much more developed military industry than Peru? If a freeze on the purchase of arms is achieved, what will be done with obsolete equipment and how will you plan to renew it?

[Monzon Arrunategui] Regarding all these concerns all I can say is that it is in keeping with government policy which of course has a political objective. This is the real framework of all these negotiations and studies. Within the political framework, the Armed Forces also aims to achieve certain objectives. These cannot be in keeping with someone's personal whim. It must be the result of teamwork. There has already been a preliminary meeting during which we discussed certain guidelines and we agreed to establish two task groups: a political task group that will include Armed Forces representatives and a technical-military task group that will include political representatives.

[Gonzalez] In an interview he granted to CARETAS, the war minister talked about a "reorganization" within the Army aimed at decreasing the number of active members....

[Monzon Arrunategui] There are several factors that are involved in all this. The number of Army troops is the result of the Army's structure itself, the mission assigned to the different bodies making up the Army, and the equipment it has. It is also related to the austerity program in the fiscal sector. This is a program which is being implemented. The structure must be agile, so as to assure effectiveness; and flexible, to be able to adapt itself to the different situations that may arise. For example, an Army that is normally trained to act on an international level is now also being trained to act on the domestic level.

[Gonzalez] In keeping with this view, what kind of Army will Peru have in the 21st century?

[Monzon Arrunategui] We are trying to achieve a modern, well equipped Army that is able to fulfill its function, one that has the best trained personnel and has the necessary equipment to be able to fulfill its function within the framework of the times for which it was organized. The development program is in keeping with institutional needs and those factors pertaining to strategic decisions that must be kept in mind.

/8918

CSO: 3348/458

PERU

ROCA CACERES ON FELIPE GONZALEZ VISIT, SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

PY211820 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2235 GMT 20 Feb 86

[Text] Lima, 20 Feb (EFE)--Carlos Roca Caceres, president of the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies' Foreign Affairs Commission, today reported that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez will visit Peru before 10 July.

The Peruvian congressman said that he had met with Gonzalez, who had told him that he would visit Peru after the March referendum on Spain's membership in NATO and the May elections in Andalucia.

Roca Caceres, who returned to Peru on 19 February, was interviewed today by Radioprogramas del Peru.

The deputy of the governing social democratic American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] said that the international congress of the Socialist International, to be held in Lima in June, will discuss the problems that the foreign debt causes for developing countries. He said that the Peruvian decision to use only 10 percent of its export revenues to pay its foreign debt was viewed with sympathy by the Socialist International, where APRA is an observer.

When asked about the lack of solidarity offered by Latin America with the Peruvian decision regarding the foreign debt, Roca Caceres stated that in the region there are "some governments that are too dependent on and submissive to the United States." Therefore, Peru must exercise "political education," said Roca, who noted that although "there is nothing much one can do alone," the stance maintained by President Alan Garcia's government regarding the foreign debt must be defended with "courage and firmness."

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PERU

APRA DEPUTY COMMENTS ON GARCIA'S TRUJILLO SPEECH

PY251748 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru Network in Spanish 2240 GMT 24 Feb 86

[Text] American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] Deputy Francisco Diez Canseco Tavora has stated that President Alan Garcia's Brotherhood Day speech in Trujillo was positive and that on the external front the chief of state made a positive change as far as the IMF is concerned. Tavora also stated that a new center-left political party will have to be formed by 1990 to fill the political gap between APRA and the United Left.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Deputy Diez Canseco, what are your impressions of the speech Alan Garcia delivered in Trujillo during the APRA meeting on Fraternity Day?

[Diez Canseco] In this case we have to distinguish between the domestic and foreign fronts, as the president himself did. Regarding the domestic front, I believe it was positive to hear President Garcia say that a firm and energetic fight against subversion and terrorism has been started. However, I believe that both he and the interior minister have frequently spoken about this topic and now they must turn their words into actions.

Regarding the foreign front, I think there has been a positive change, a concern about realism we had not seen in President Garcia since the beginning of his administration. I previously expressed my concern that the economic measures should go beyond personal aspirations or the interest of staying at the top in the popularity polls, and that they should reflect a concrete and realistic desire to benefit the great majority. We are witnessing a realistic turn in the Peruvian position toward the IMF.

I believe that President Garcia's speech reveals a turn that will be healthy as long as it permits a real revival of the economy, as long as it goes beyond a speech [words indistinct] and brings us back to reality.

[Reporter] Mr Deputy, since you and President Alan Garcia are fruits and products of Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, what do you recall most about Haya de la Torre?

[Diez Canseco] I always remember Haya de la Torre's ideas and his moral (?values). He was above all types of party (?disputes). For that reason I, as an admirer, as a disciple, believe that a new option for the center has to be created so that the (?rigid) alternatives of APRA and of the United Left can be broken, which I believe might be negative for Peruvian democracy. What do I recall about Haya de la Torre? I recall his teachings, I recall his example, and I still follow many of his ideas.

/8918

CSO: 3348/458

PERU

BRIEFS

'FINANCIAL IMPERIALISM'--Mexico City, 26 Feb (NOTIMEX)--Peruvian Interior Minister Abel Salinas Izaguirre, who arrived tonight in Mexico City for a private visit, said: During these critical moments, the main need is to satisfy the needs of the Latin American people and those of the countries who have benefited from our natural resources. However, he said, to reach this goal, Latin America should act jointly to create better conditions and have an advantage in negotiations with those who are trying to oppress us with the new financial imperialism. To solve the foreign debt problem, Salinas Izaguirre said his government adopted the economic measure of pledging only 10 percent of Peru's exports to satisfy its foreign debt commitments. The Peruvian official said Alan Garcia's government is sympathetic to the position Mexico will soon adopt to meet its international financial commitments. Finally, Salinas Izaguirre said that in his opinion the word "debtor" should not be used but that these countries should be known as those who suffer the same problems from financial imperialism. [Text] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0450 GMT 27 Feb 86 FL] /8918

PRIEST PROMOTES 'LIBERATION THEOLOGY'--Peruvian Priest Gustavo Gutierrez has been trying to get more people to read the book "Theology of Liberation." He has asked that more copies of it be printed so it may reach more places and stir the people's conscience. This is because, in his opinion, it is closely linked to the current political situation in Latin America [words indistinct]. Among other topics, it deals with the matter of the foreign debt, which concerns Latin America, and this is good, he said. The priest asked also that the book be analyzed by ECLA [Economic Commission for Latin America], which is currently meeting in Colombia. [Text] [Havana International Service in Quechua 0000 GMT 7 Mar 86 PA] /8918

FLOOD DAMAGE REPORTS--Lima, 10 Mar (EFE)--The Peruvian Government tonight declared a state of emergency in several departments after a landslide buried 100 houses with a still undetermined number of missing people in Huanuco Department. The report gathered in Lima does not show the number of missing people, ranging from 10 to 40, according to assessments made by the deputy mayor in Huanuco, some 500 km north of Lima. The landslide occurred early on 10 March as a result of the overflow of a small lake after torrential rains, which continued today. The towns most affected are Santa Maria del Valle, Tingo, Huayupampa and Huaracalla. In some areas, the mud was 8 meters deep. In Huanuco, in the worst flood in 20 years, the Huallaga River flooded five

other towns and cut off the road linking Huanuco and Tingo Maria. The number of victims was not reported. In Southern Peru, on the Bolivian border, the government has declared a state of emergency in Puno Department where it has been raining heavily for weeks. Losses in livestock and crops have been substantial. Overflows of Lake Titicaca, 4,000 meters above sea level, have devastated 50,000 hectares and affected some 200,000 people in one of the poorest departments in the country. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0207 GMT 11 Mar 86 PY] /8918

CSO: 3348/458

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

NDP ORGAN: LOCAL 'LEFTISTS' LINKED TO GUYANA'S PPP

Kingston NEW TIMES in English 13 Feb 86 p 2

[Text]

JAGAN IN KINGSTOWN

"WE LOST GRENADA,
WE MUST LIBERATE GUYANA,
THEN OTHER ISLANDS."

The above were the words of Dr Cheddi Jagan, Guyana opposition leader while in St Vincent recently. The Leader of the People's Progressive Party also said while here:

"I AM A COMMUNIST,
AND PROUD OF IT!"

Local leftists are affiliated to Jagan's P.P.P., which remains affiliated to the Communist Parties of Eastern Europe and Russia.

/9317
CSO: 3298/368

SURINAME

INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY REORGANIZATION PROGRAM PRESENTED

Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 21 Jan 86 pp 1, 5

[Text] On Monday morning Minister of Internal Affairs, District Management, and Civil Defense, Jules Wijdenbosch received the press and explained his reorganization program and actions which his Ministry will take in the coming two years.

The Minister, who was accompanied by a 15-man staff among whom were three DC's [District Commissioners] reviewed his Ministry's three directorates and explained the specific new plans which must be realized in a short time. As one of the first priorities the minister listed the renovation of the Civil Affairs Bureau, the study of Civil Service reform, more public participation in government and the setting up of radio stations in every district whose main goal would be to broadcast specific information about the area in which the station is located.

Internal Affairs

The Directorate of Internal Affairs, Minister Wijdenbosch said, deals directly with the way society functions.

This directorate has four main bureaus, namely: Citizens' Affairs, Government Affairs, Archives, and Administration of State-controlled Media.

The minister lingered for a long time on Citizens' Affairs, since this Bureau is destined for much renovation in the Census [Office] and in citizens registration. In the past, families as a whole unit were registered with this Bureau, but now each individual will be registered.

Furthermore, every citizen will shortly be issued an identification card to allow immediate identification of the individual as a resident.

This bureau has high priority as far as the minister is concerned, who, furthermore, said that the Citizens' Affairs Bureau, being a service bureau, must be closer to the people and that, therefore, service bureaus soon will be opened in the districts.

Central Registration

Citizens' Affairs registration will be centralized, according to the minister, to permit democratization to get under way, to further perfect the designation of street-names and address numbers, to set up a better organization for passport administration. Recently, business passports were issued for businessmen who travel regularly.

Good Organization Demands the Right People

A good organization demands a good work force, the minister continued. We still have a lot of work to do, since civil service recruitment has not always been done in the proper way to permit the placing of the right people in the right job. After evaluating the situation, we will have to make some changes.

Internal Affairs functions in support of the other ministries. In the coming half year we will train personnel who will be responsible for passing information on to the other bureaus. The Central Personnel Bureau will keep track of ministry goals, and define job functions so that the tasks can be performed better.

Reorganization of Government

There are about 40,000 people in government service, the minister said. Not until the Central Personnel Bureau is ready with its work, will we get a good overall picture, and know how many surplus personnel we have.

The reorganization will have to be undertaken with care, and then we will have to place the people who are hit with lay-offs in other positions or give them early retirement. The reorganization plans are still in the preparation stage, and this is being done with care.

The pensions of the poorest in our country will be reviewed and adapted, although, by comparison, we pay the best pensions. As for the religious communities, which receive State subsidies, the State will discuss with them the redefinition of how such subsidies to religion will be granted.

Cultural Treasure

The archive, Wijdenbosch continued, is the cultural treasure of every country.

Our archives have disappeared. One part [went] to the Netherlands, and one part went to France.

We will do everything possible to get these documents back.

In the second half of this year, we will definitely have our new archive at a cost of nearly 10 million guilders. I don't find that too expensive to achieve this goal.

The archive department has always been given second class treatment, and has not been accorded its proper value.

The Administrative Bureau, as one of the principal bureaus, is essential for the exchange of information between the ministries. The minister announced that a state printing office will be set up very shortly.

The reasons for this are: to prevent the release of classified material, to reduce the time needed for printing, to reduce costs, and to retain consistency in printing.

Civil Defense to actively carry out the democratization process.

We are busy with a process of democratization, according to Wijdenbosch, and the Bureaus of District Management and Civil Defense are responsible for actively carrying out this process.

They [district management and civil defense] are two sides of the same coin. In the districts we have installed groups who are working on a project tracing how management functioned over the past years, and how it is going to work in the future.

The public must participate in the development of this project.

This is why we have appointed administrative boards. They consist of an executive board and commission members.

There are two government people on the executive board and commission members are representatives of organizations that are active in the districts.

Shortly we will install a seniors' council consisting of persons 65 years of age and older, whose experiences in the district where they are appointed can be of assistance to the younger generation.

These persons will not be paid, but they will get reimbursed for expenditures. They will meet once every two months with the minister to discuss current affairs in the district. There are already youth councils, which have an advisory role.

District Cabinets

Soon every district commissioner will be given an additional bureau to coordinate the functions between the various ministries that operate in that district so that the ministries do not work along different tracks, but instead work with each other.

Shortly, there also will be a council of government commissioner.

A government commissioner will be the liaison between the district commissioners and the council of ministers through the ministry of internal affairs.

He will head a number of districts, and he will have the following responsibilities:

Forwarding plans introduced by the district's inhabitants to the council of ministers, and checking to see that these plans are carried out in the district by the DC's office. With this I mean, that as [the government commissioner] will monitor the district's affairs, and have regional control, according to Wijdenbosch.

District's Budget

Organizationally, the districts are empowered to submit their own budgets, Wijdenbosch said, which will then be implemented by the districts themselves, after approval by the council of ministers, with the aid of the youth and senior councils.

The districts will have information offices and each district will have its own radio station.

These stations will be directed specifically toward their own district, and will broadcast daily the most important activities that are going on in the district. The aim is, according to the minister, to increase the public's involvement in district affairs. He didn't think that the state radio (SRS) would be short-changed by this, and he thinks that the costs involved in the course of time will prove to have been well-spent.

Policy Toward Women

In the future a women's council and a women's center will be set up through the office of civil defense, to advise on overall policy toward women. This is something the minister would very much like to see come about.

The goal is to integrate women into civic affairs.

It is not the government's intention to eliminate the work done by existing women's organizations, rather, women's integration into civic affairs, according to the minister, must be conducted on a more country-wide scale.

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CSO: 3214/36

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NO PLANS TO SIGN INFORMATION EXCHANGE ACCORD WITH U.S.

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 11 Mar 86 p 4

[Text]

NEW YORK — Although Trinidad and Tobago wants to attract more American tourists, it has no immediate plans to sign an exchange on information agreement with the U.S.

That indication has come from the U.S. manager of the Trinidad and Tobago Board of Tourism, Selwyn Joseph, who said the information exchange agreement raised some fundamental questions about its future impact and those queries would have to be answered first before any signing takes place.

"Obviously," he said in Manhattan, "the politicians in their wisdom have seen certain clauses, certain sections of that document, that need to be given further consideration before one simply goes and puts a signature on something which could have

negative effects at a later date," Joseph added.

The information exchange agreement is designed to give the U.S. Treasury access to certain types of information about the financial dealings of Americans in foreign countries. States which sign such a pact with the U.S. are then designated as convention tax havens, meaning that Americans who hold conventions and professional conferences there can write off most of their expenses against their tax liabilities to the U.S.

To date, Barbados is the only CBI beneficiary country which signed the agreement, and that's so despite the fact that the island wants to become an international offshore financial centre, a place where secrecy is an important attraction.

As Joseph sees it, the fact that Barbados remains the only country to have concluded such an agreement is an indication of the concerns of other countries.

But the Trinidad and Tobago manager who acknowledged that he had to see the draft agreement, believes several U.S. companies would still select Caribbean destinations as sites for their conventions despite the fact that they couldn't write off their expenses.

"Bearing in mind that the tax benefits might not be too significant," Joseph went on, "I think there are companies out there that would be prepared to select a destination where they could combine work and vacation to suit their own needs. I am sure what they would not allow, in every instance, the fact that they could save on their taxes, to be the deciding factor in selecting a site for their conference or convention."

/9274
CSO: 3298/377

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SPECIAL COUNSEL TO STUDY DRUGS COMMISSION REPORT

Allum Appointment

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 9 Mar 86 p 1

[Article by Norris Solomon]

[Text] The Government's unusual step in appointing a special counsel to look into and take appropriate action on the report of the Commission of Inquiry into Drug Abuse was done to ensure that none of the culprits gets away.

A reliable source described the drug report yesterday as "dynamite" and a high ranking Government source told the SUNDAY GUARDIAN that Desmond Allum, president of the Bar Association and one of the country's most outstanding criminal lawyers, would have a free hand and would have power to take whatever legal action he thought necessary.

It is understood that the machinery of the state would be available to him and he would have the full cooperation of the Director of Public Prosecutions department, should he wish it or need it.

No Precedent

The source pointed out that under the terms of Mr Allum's appointment, if he wished he could even ask the Police to initiate further investigations of anything mentioned in the report.

The source said that while the procedure was unusual in Trinidad and Tobago, it was not unheard of, and he mentioned the instance where special counsels were appointed in the Watergate scandal in the United States.

There is, however, no traceable precedent for such action in this country.

Asked about the departure from the usual practice of having the report laid in Parliament and referring it instead to a special counsel, the source said it was, feared if information in the report became public, the culprits, and others involved might be alerted and might get away.

It is understood that only the President, Ellis Clarke, and the Prime Minister, George Chambers, (apart from the commission members), know what is in the report.

Not even the Attorney General, who made the announcement in Parliament on Friday, Cabinet members nor the Director of Public Prosecutions have seen the report.

The decision to have a completely independent counsel deal with the report and initiate action, if necessary, was done, the source said, to avoid allegations of a cover-up on the part of the Government.

Criminal Field

The source pointed out that often in the past there have been allegations and charges of cover-ups made against the Attorney General's office and the Director of Public Prosecutions department, and it was to remove any doubts from the minds of the public that the decision was taken to proceed by way of an independent special counsel.

It was expected that Mr Allum was aware of the urgency and importance of the matter. Based on his experience in the criminal field, he would be in a position to carefully weigh the evidence contained in the report and make his own judgment as to whether criminal proceedings should follow, proceedings which he himself could initiate.

The Commission of Inquiry into Drug Abuse was headed by retired Court of Appeal Judge, Garvin Scott, now chairman of the Public Service Appeal.

With him on the commission were Professor Michael Beaubrun, psychiatrist, and Jim Rodriguez, who was chief security officer of the National Security Council and is now Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security.

Implication of 'High Officials'

FL110204 Bridgetown CANA in English 1953 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Port-of-Spain, 10 Mar (CANA)--Trinidad and Tobago is abuzz with rumours that high officials have been implicated in drug trafficking by a government-appointed commission. The speculation was sparked off Friday when government announced that president of the Bar Association Desmond Allum would be appointed special counsel to implement the commission's report on drug abuse.

Meanwhile, president of the Trinidad and Tobago Human Rights Bureau Ramesh Lawrence Maharaj says Allum's appointment is unconstitutional and he will take legal action should it be carried through.

Maharaj is contending in his statement that the office of the director of public prosecutions (DPP) is the place for such a report to be dealt with.

Allum-DPP Cooperation

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 11 Mar 86 p 1

[Article by Clevon Raphael]

[Text] Director of Public Prosecutions Clebert Brooks and Special Counsel Desmond Allum are fully co-operating in the post-Drug Abuse Report assignment given to Mr Allum by the State.

Disclosing this yesterday afternoon, Attorney General and Minister for Legal Affairs, Senator Russell Martineau, quoted the Constitution to support the job given to Mr Allum.

The Attorney General said in the House of Representatives last Friday that based on the report of the Commission of Inquiry, headed by retired Court of Appeal Judge Garvin Scott, Mr Allum was appointed "to examine the report and verbatim evidence, with a view to initiating whatever action he considers necessary, as a result of the disclosures made therein."

On Sunday, the Bureau of Human Rights threatened to take legal action to stop Mr Allum, a criminal lawyer, from carrying out his mandate, claiming his appointment was unconstitutional.

The Bureau also declared that in effect the appointment was usurping the functions of the office of the DPP.

Contacted yesterday, Senator Martineau expressed surprise about any apparent controversy over the move. He said there was nothing in the Constitution where the office of the DPP was concerned which stated only that person could initiate prosecutions.

No Further Comment

Senator Martineau referred the "Guardian" to the following provision:

"(a) The Director of Public Prosecutions still have power in any case in which he considers it proper to do so--

"(b) to take over and continue any such criminal proceedings that may have been instituted by any other person or authority."

"How could the DPP take over and continue' proceedings if those proceedings did not begin by somebody else?" Senator Martineau asked: He declined to comment further on the matter.

But when another source was approached, it was pointed out:

"Nobody can anticipate what course of action Mr Allum will pursue. He has his specific areas of operations and will, of course, perform those duties the best way he sees fit."

The Garvin Scott team was appointed in April 1984 to "determine the extent of drug abuse in Trinidad and Tobago."

Members were Professor Michael Beauburn and Jim Rodriguez, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security.

The sessions were conducted in private.

The report itself was still under "lock and key" and inquiries by the "Guardian" in an effort to obtain a copy were stonewalled.

According to unofficial reports, the document contains "explosive information," implicating public officials among others.

Mr Allum has not been given any deadline for the taking of "appropriate action."

/9274
CSO: 3298/377

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

REDUCED AID TO CARICOM--Wilsie White dispatch--Plymouth, 10 Mar (CANA)-- Trinidad and Tobago High Commissioner to the Eastern Caribbean Reginald Dumas says that the twin-island state can no longer afford to maintain levels of financial aid to Caricom states because of an economic downturn. We now have to concentrate on technical assistance, he said in an interview here. On the issue of trade with its neighbours, Dumas noted that Trinidad and Tobago had signed a bilateral trade agreement with Jamaica and had proposed one to Barbados. We are prepared to discuss similar arrangements with the other islands, he told CANA. Bilateral arrangements do not mean that we wish to see the destruction of Caricom he said. We have no desire to destroy Caricom but we also feel that Caricom as presently structured allows for some element of bilateral (action), particularly in the trade and air services (areas).
[Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2121 GMT 10 Mar 86 FL] /9274

CSO: 3298/377

7 April 1986

TURKS AND CAICOS

COUNCIL OK'S NARCOTICS EVIDENCE BILL IN NOD TO U.S.

Legislative Council Action

Grand Turk TURKS AND CAICOS NEWS in English 16 Jan 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

THE United States Narcotics Evidence Bill (similar to the one enacted in Cayman Islands last year) was passed Monday at LegCo after this Bill was discussed by Attorney-General **David Lang**, its merits extolled by Deputy Chief Minister **Robert Hall** and Development Minister **Ariel Misick** and after leader of the opposition PDM said that he would abstain from voting on the Bill.

To loud and prolonged cheering from the opposition, Chief Minister **Nathaniel Francis** in a painfully realistic statement referred to comments from "people out there" who said that the Bill would result in loss of trade here. Francis said that if this was to be the case that he meant to exact favourable terms from the Americans to offset such loss. Here he was referring to the treaty which is to be signed between this government and the US government, as a follow-up to the passing of the Bill here.

Francis said that he was going to press the United States to give some assistance and that he intended to make some demands on that government, noting that they

had make up for what they were going to lose.

The Bill referred to as a controversial one in some quarters was passed with minimal comments from the opposition PDM who were making their first appearance after their boycott last December. On that occasion, nine bills had been passed in their absence by the House.

Clement Howell, leader of the opposition, however did ask as to whether the treaty between the United States and the government here would involve a reciprocal arrangement, at which Misick said there was no need for reciprocity, since these islands were a tax haven and it was hardly likely that, the government here would need to go in pursuit of similar information in the States.

He said, however, that should the need arise, he was certain co-operation would be given.

Howell also asked what were the provisions should the information required under the Bill be in the possession of a juvenile. The PNP members of the House seemed stumped for a while at this query, but then Lang

said a common sense approach could surely be adopted, where the Attorney General here could get in touch with the Attorney General in the States apprising the latter of the situation and asking him if he was absolutely sure he wanted the proceedings to continue.

Speaking on the Bill, Lang noted it was one dealing with the obtaining of evidence in these islands in relation to narcotics prosecutions in the United States.

Focusing on a situation where financial centres are used for money laundering by drug profiteers, Lang said that he had no reason to suppose that in recent years there have been any money laundering, adding that if there had been he has no knowledge of it. He noted that Bill was one being enacted at the request of the UK government.

And pointing out that he was happy to state the Turks and Caicos Islands were not being singled out, the Attorney General said that similar legislation were to be enacted in other dependent territories.

He noted that the passing of the Bill was the first part of a two-document arrangement, and that in the near future, a treaty would be signed to ensure that the facilities under the Bill will not be misused.

Misick noted that the Bill had two very important limitations, the first is that proceedings and investigations must relate to narcotics and must be undertaken by the US government only, and secondly it would not cover civil proceedings between private person or civil proceedings by US government if

such proceedings do not relate to drug offenses. Lang later added to this that it would include tax offences only so far as they relate to drug offences.

Minister Hall in his comments noted the Bill was proof of government's serious intention to combat drug trafficking, adding that those who have been questioning such intention would now no longer be able to do so.

Earlier Francis prefaced the readings of the Bill with comments which pivoted on the unusual situation. He said that he wanted the unusual situation to be understood and that because of the anxiety the Bill was causing, he had done what was usually not done — given Cabinet members and government scope to peruse the Bill and to express themselves on issues.

Attorney General's Comments

Grand Turk TURKS AND CAICOS NEWS in English 16 Jan 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

ATTORNEY-GENERAL David Lang, speaking to the *News* last week on the United States Narcotics Evidence Bill (which was passed by LegCo at a special sitting on Monday) said that he was aware of concern by some members of the financial centre here of possible misuse of the Bill but referred to the Cayman Bill, a similar one and said that he has been given to understand that this Bill has not been misused.

The Attorney General on the situation in the Cayman Islands said that the agreement entered into between the Cayman Islands and the United States authorities is inclusive of safeguards to preclude such misuse and that he has been informed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office that there is no reason to believe that the provisions of the Cayman laws have in any way been misused.

He said that pending the approval of the Narcotics Bill here, these islands will also enter into a similar agreement with the United States.

The Bill, he said, is one which only relates to drug-associated matters and when passed will allow access to documented information here if this is considered necessary for the inquiries being pursued by the authorities in the United States.

Under the provisions of the Bill, the Attorney General can be sent a certificate from the US Attorney General, stating that the latter has reasons to believe that certain named person or persons are involved in drug-related activities — the persons being so identified by the US law enforcement officers — and requesting information on the said person or persons is believed to be held in these islands.

Lang noted that the certificate will not have to say what reasons are there for such a belief, or to show that any particular drug offence has been committed.

The Attorney General here will then proceed to serve a notice on the holder of the wanted information requesting that the required information be produced. Lang added that unless specifically allowed to do so by the US Attorney General, the Attorney General here would not be permitted to give warning of the notice.

The person on whom the notice is served upon is not allowed to disclose to anybody that he has been so served except to his legal adviser, who must also be bound similarly, for a period of 90 days, which may be extended to 180.

He is obliged to produce the documented information, and his failure to do so will mean that he has committed an offence for which he will be liable to a fine of \$10,000 or imprisonment of two years or both.

Disclosure that such a notice has been served is an offence punishable by a fine of \$1,000, or six months' imprisonment or both.

If the person fails to give the necessary information a search warrant can be issued to obtain it.

Lang noted that Turks and Caicos Islands "are by no means being singled out" for this step, adding that the Bill is one requested by the British government for all dependent territories.

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CSO: 3298/369

END